

# *The* NATIONAL WOOL GROWER



Volume XXVI Number 2

FEBRUARY, 1936

The Sheepmen's  
National Convention



The State Convention  
in January



The Livestock Industry  
and National Forest  
Grazing

F. A. SILCOX  
Chief, U. S. Forest Service

Official Organ of the  
NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS  
ASSOCIATION  
Salt Lake City, Utah

and the  
NATIONAL WOOL MARKETING  
CORPORATION  
Boston, Mass.

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*RA Cabee*  
President

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# The National Wool Grower

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and the

National Wool Marketing Corporation

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Texas, Washington and Wyoming. To nonmembers in the United States and Canada \$1.50 per year; foreign, \$2.00 per year.

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# President Rich's Message



R. C. RICH  
Tenth President of The National  
Wool Growers Association

FOR seventy years the National Wool Growers Association has represented the people of our industry in dealing with their problems, and in particular with national policies. For over twenty years, to my knowledge, the National Association has had the support of the ablest and most active people in the industry in the wool growing states. During that period of time, the State and National Associations have proven to be of inestimable value to our people. We are at this time confronted with very serious problems, some of which are reciprocal tariffs, unreserved public domain administration, national forest policies, the proposed Argentine Sanitary Convention, and national wild life and other conservation policies.

In order that we can properly represent you in these matters, we must have the hearty cooperation and support of the various State Wool Growers' Associations and they must have the support of the growers of their states. This support to your State Association must necessarily include the payment of your dues to it and an active interest in Association affairs.

## The Sheepmen's National Convention

*January 22, 23, and 24, 1936, Salt Lake City, Utah*

THE Seventy-first Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association was adjourned at 5 o'clock on Friday, January 24, 1936, and went into the records as an unusually fine affair.

But all conventions do that. For the main ingredient of success is always there: the members of the association themselves, gathered together from all sections of the country and united by a common purpose. They put the force and vitality into the scheduled events and carry the conventions to the points of excellence they attain.

The convention site largely determines the makeup of its attendance, but there is always a fair representation from each of the western states having associations affiliated with the National. The registration this year showed 54 per cent of those present from Utah and the following delegates from the other western states: Arizona 2, California 12, Colorado 36, Idaho 31, Montana 7, Nevada 2, New Mexico 4, Oregon 7, Washington 3, and Wyoming 10. Unfortunately, President Gillis and

Executive Committeeman Mayer of Texas had to abandon, at the last moment, their plans to be at the national convention, so that state was not represented. Government officials, wool dealers, commission men, representatives of packers and other allied industries from the East numbered 35.

### *The New Officers*

While conventions do usually run along the grooves made by their predecessors, to each one is given some significant or distinguishing feature that gives it individuality, and the 1936 gathering of wool growers had several such features. First, there was the change in Association officials. President Ellenwood announced at the closing session that he was a candidate only for the position of past president of the Association and nominated R. C. Rich of Idaho to succeed him as president, which received the unanimous approval of the convention.



Mr. Ellenwood's official connection with the National Wool Growers Association commenced in 1921 when he was elected vice president, a position which he held until 1934 when he became president. His loyal and valuable service to the wool growing industry was recognized by making him honorary president of the National Wool Growers Association for life.

Mr. Rich comes to the National with an excellent record of activity on behalf of wool growers, both in the Idaho Wool Growers Association, of which he was president from 1928 to 1931, and in the National. A man, active in the sheep business himself, with an intelligent grasp of its problems, and a firm believer in the value of organization, Mr. Rich is a worthy successor to the men who have preceded him in the leadership of the National Wool Growers Association.

One new vice president was also elected. Fred E. Warren of Cheyenne, Wyoming, succeeds E. S. Mayer of Texas. Some interesting history is attached to the election of Mr. Warren to an official position in the National at the 1936 convention, for just 35 years ago when, for the first time of record, Salt Lake City was the site for the convention of the wool growers' association, Mr. Warren's father, Senator Francis E. Warren, was made it president. The new vice president assumes his position with a high degree of competency.

A. A. Johns of Arizona and S. M. Jorgensen of Utah were unanimously elected to continue their services as the other two vice presidents.

Some changes were also made in the Executive Committee for 1936. Each state association selects its own representative for that body and the membership is now composed of the following men, in addition to the officers of the National Association: Lou Charlebois, Arizona; S. P. Arbios, California; J. G. Brown, Colorado; T. C. Bacon, Idaho; H. A. Snyder, Montana; F. W. Lee, New Mexico; J. G. Barratt, Oregon; E. S.



OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION  
Seated, President R. C. Rich, Idaho; Standing, Vice Presidents, F. E. Warren, Wyoming;  
A. A. Johns, Arizona, and S. M. Jorgensen, Utah.

Mayer, Texas; W. D. Candland, Utah; T. J. Drumheller, Washington; J. B. Wilson, Wyoming.

Members of the Executive Committee head the convention committees, the balance of whose memberships is made up usually of one representative from each state. For the convention this year there were five committees: General Resolutions, Public Domain, Forest Grazing, Marketing, and Predatory Animals, and they set a high standard of efficiency and effort for future committees to reach. Their

reports, as adopted on the final convention day, are printed in full in this issue. They present the decisions of the convention as to the best policies for the National Wool Growers Association, as the official representative of the sheep industry, to follow during the coming year.

### *The Vote on Public Land Committee Report*

All of the committee reports were passed as presented, with the exception of that on public lands, which covered the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act. That question is always good for fifteen rounds of argument and only the action of the presiding officer brings it to an end then. Idaho, Colorado, Montana, Arizona, New Mexico, and Wyoming were lined up strongly in favor of the adoption of the committee report; Oregon and California were opposed, and the Utah delegation was divided. Washington, having no direct interest in the question, took no part in the debate and voting; Nevada had no vote, and Texas was not represented, although she, like Washington, has no public land problem.

A substitute report was offered by Senator Candland of Utah covering only the questions of classification of permittees and fees, but was defeated. Mr. Wing of California presented a minority report (printed on page 21), but did not call for a vote on it. So, after some slight modifications, the committee's report was



passed, recommending, principally, that no increase be made in the 80-million acreage and the grazing districts now established under the Taylor Grazing Act until its administration can be more fully understood. To carry out the recommendations of the report, the President of the National Association was directed to appoint a committee of three, and President Rich, following the close of the convention, named T. C. Bacon (Idaho), J. B. Wilson (Wyoming) and G. N. Winder (Colorado) for this work. They, with a similar group from the American National Live Stock Association, will also represent the stockmen in a conference with Forester Silcox and other government officials on forest grazing matters in Washington about the middle of February.

The voting on the public land report was done on the basis of Article III, Section 1 of the Constitution of the National Wool Growers Association as it was amended, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, at the opening session of the convention. By this action, the votes granted to affiliated state organizations on the basis of sheep population were eliminated and the voting strength of the states made up as follows:

One vote shall be allowed for each state association recognized by the Executive Committee as having membership in the National Wool Growers Association, and in addition, one vote for each \$100, or major fraction thereof, paid for the support of the association by such state association during the preceding calendar year.

One vote for each \$300, or major fraction thereof, paid for subscriptions to the National Wool Grower by state member associations during the preceding calendar year.

The table below shows the number of votes each state was entitled to cast in the 1936 convention and how they were cast on the final vote adopting the report of the Committee on Public Lands:

STATE	NO. OF VOTES	FOR	AGAINST
Arizona	4	4	---
California	21	---	21
Colorado	14	14	---
Idaho	20	20	---
Montana	16	16	---
New Mexico	1	1	---
Oregon	17	---	17
Texas	1	---	---
Utah	11	3	8
Washington	7	---	---
Wyoming	25	25	---
TOTALS	137	83	46

#### Statement by the Chief Forester

Probably the most outstanding and significant feature of the convention was the attendance of Chief Forester Silcox of the United States Forest Service. A sheepmen's gathering would appreciate the presence of such an official in any year, but 1935 had built up a background that threw the event into very high relief. With the failure to issue term permits last year, with

reductions in permits for protection and redistribution, and with national wild life and land planning programs under way, the outlook of the stockmen using the national forest grazing was entirely clouded with uncertainty, insecurity, and instability. In aviation terms, the condition was one of "ceiling zero." The force of Mr. Silcox's statements before the convention was sufficient to lift that cloud. Some of those statements were:

I do not think you stockmen need to have any fear that the National Forest Service will attempt to substitute types of use (game and recreational) of national forests that will take away the use (grazing) on which this whole territory exists.

We are fast reaching a point where we cannot continue cutting up permits.

I can state that in connection with distribution we can now narrow this down to cases that can be handled specifically instead of as a general proposition.

I am arranging for a representative committee from your Association and from the American National Live Stock Association to meet me in Washington around February 15. I hope that by February 15 we will be able to announce a policy, although I do say that some term permits will be issued on national forests.

You may be assured that we are going to fix this question of distribution with an idea of the necessity of stability.

Read the Forester's complete message as printed in this issue.

The sheepmen's appreciation of Mr. Silcox's attitude was expressed by Dr. S. W. McClure shortly before the convention closed. In part he said:

We are extremely pleased with the attitude that Mr. Silcox has taken toward the problems which confront us. We were not pleased with reductions in our permits; we were not pleased that no term permits were issued last year, but Mr. Silcox's statements show that he has studied this thing not only from our side, but from the side of the other fellow. The western livestock industry has a sincere friend in our new Chief Forester.

#### The Social Side of the Convention

No matter how different the views of the sheepmen may be on the regulation of the public domain, or any other subject, they can always bridge them over and have a right good time together in any social events of the convention. And there was ample opportunity for real enjoyment at the 1936 gathering. The wool fashion show on Thursday evening was one of the main events. A raised platform had been laid down the center of the Lafayette Ballroom of the Utah Hotel and over it paraded the very beautiful models of the leading retail stores of Salt Lake City, gowned in the smartest of woolen wearing apparel for all occasions. There were bathing suits, smart knit wear, good-looking tailored suits, attractive afternoon frocks and as a climax, the "Golden Wedding." The three gowns worn in this group, by the bride and her two maids, were shown by the Associated Wool Industries of New York. They

were made of a new very sheer and very lovely woolen fabric, called "Golden Wedding," and designed by Walter Plunket, famous designer of Hollywood and New York, for the fashion show put on at the Miami Biltmore Ball held in New York City in December.

Special mention must also be made of the fact that the wearing apparel modeled at the show was not confined to that for women, but included a full line of "what the well dressed man will wear."

From the applause of the crowd that filled the ballroom to more than capacity, the conclusion must be drawn that wool has a good many friends—after, of course, making sufficient deduction for the attractiveness of the models.

Mr. J. H. McGibbeny, secretary of the Retail Trades Committee of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, acted as master of ceremonies for the fashion show.

The dinner dance closed the convention, and was a most satisfactory affair. The dinner itself, built around the English lamb chops from the prize carload of lambs at the recent Ogden Live Stock Show—donated by Merriam and Wilkins of Ogden,—surely must have pleased even the most critical tastes. The floor show was good and plenty of time was left for dancing.

Commendation goes to the Utah Wool Growers Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the Retail Merchants of Salt Lake City, and the Hotel Utah for the manner in which they provided for the entertainment of the convention visitors.

### ***The Program***

The stimulating music of the Utah Quartette opened the convention on Wednesday, the 22nd; the invocation by Rev. T. G. Lilley of the First Presbyterian Church followed, and Governor Henry H. Blood gave the address of welcome, in which he predicted greater stability for the stockmen in the future, but counseled them to get out of debt, that they might become financially independent. In his reply to the Governor, Vice President Johns of Arizona paid a pleasing tribute to the State of Utah and the accomplishments of her people.

It has become customary since the organization of the Women's Auxiliary to the National seven years ago to have its president report on the activities of the auxiliary at the first session of the convention. This year Mrs. J. R. Eliason of Salt Lake City, now in the second year of her presidential term, very ably told of the objectives of the club work for the women individually and for the industry they are interested in. Her address appears in full in the regular Auxiliary section of this issue.

The full text of President Ellenwood's address is also given in this number. The origin of the National Association in 1865 and its long years of service to the

industry were used by Mr. Ellenwood as the background for his discussion of reciprocal trade agreements, the Argentine Sanitary Convention, agricultural adjustment and other matters, and especially for the need of loyal support of the sheepmen's organization in the future that it may continue its protection and advancement of the sheep industry.

Since the annual report of the Secretary was printed in the January issue of the National Wool Grower, Secretary Marshall only made a few brief comments to the convention, chief of which was the necessity for guarding against the levying of excise taxes on livestock under any new agricultural adjustment legislation as a means of controlling grain and hay production.

The Secretary also presented to the convention the amendment to the Constitution of the Association, referred to above. He also reported additions to the year's income, as set forth in the Association's financial statement which appeared in the January Wool Grower, through the following payments on state quotas: Montana, \$1500; Texas, \$1000; Washington, \$170, which completed her quota for the year.

The three topics of the afternoon session on Wednesday were the United States Soil Conservation Program, discussed by A. E. McClymonds, state coordinator of the Soil Conservation Service of Colorado; the National Land Planning Program and the Western Wool Grower, handled by Prof. E. L. Potter of the Oregon State Agricultural College; and the Causes and Prevention of Bighead by Dr. A. B. Clawson, Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C.

### ***Soil Conservation and Land Planning***

Mr. McClymonds declared it to be the object of the Soil Conservation Service to coordinate the work of all government agencies in that connection and obtain the cooperation of farmers and rangemen in order that the best results could be obtained. In Colorado, he said, work with rangemen had been particularly successful because men with actual experience as range stockmen had been selected to superintend the work on the ranges. This work consists mainly of bringing back the forage cover by range management and the development of water supplies. Chemical analysis of the soil is made on each project to ascertain what kinds of forage will grow there best, and then an attempt is made to find out why such grasses or weeds are not growing there.

The land owners themselves and the government men go over the problem of range management together to find out what kind of control would be the best to follow. In many cases, Mr. McClymond said, it was found better all the way around to keep stock on the land under controlled grazing operations than to remove it entirely from the areas to be rehabilitated, al-

(Continued on page 39)

# The 1936 Platform and Program of The National Wool Growers Association

*As Set Forth in the Reports of Various Committees and Adopted by the Seventy-First Annual Convention, Salt Lake City, January 22-23-24, 1936*

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

### *Tariffs and Trade Agreements*

When, in the course of a national campaign, a candidate for the presidency pledges the electorate whose suffrage he is acknowledging that he knows of no tariff rates on agricultural products that are too high and that to lower them would be contrary to his plans, he solemnly covenants with the people to pursue that course if he shall be elected and when elected, to do otherwise would be a violation of the sacred promise. Therefore, we condemn the efforts of certain party leaders who are endeavoring to consummate such a betrayal by secret trade agreements and so-called reciprocal tariffs.

It is the expressed belief of our organization that all trade agreements with foreign countries should receive the approval of the United States Senate before becoming effective.

### *Argentine Sanitary Convention*

In view of the fact that the publicly employed veterinarians, through their organization known as the United States Livestock Sanitary Association, are in a position to be in intimate touch and thoroughly acquainted with livestock health affairs, we believe their position with relation to the Argentine Sanitary Convention is a sound one. Therefore, the following resolution adopted by the above mentioned organization of veterinarians and subsequently endorsed by the American National Live Stock Association, is recommended as expressing the views of the National Wool Growers Association in connection with this very important subject:

Whereas, the Argentine Sanitary Convention, now pending before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, would permit the importation of livestock products from zones purported to be free from rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease; and

Whereas, under the present provisions of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, importation of such products is prohibited from countries where these diseases exist; and

Whereas, under this measure of strict exclusion, our country is now free from the ravages of these dreaded diseases; therefore be it

Resolved, that we vigorously oppose the ratification of the proposed Argentine Sanitary Convention, and demand the retention of the present embargo against importation of livestock or its products from countries where either rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease exists.

### *National Live Stock and Meat Board*

The National Wool Growers Association, at its Seventy-first Annual Convention at Salt Lake City,

takes this opportunity to again give its complete support to the program of the National Live Stock and Meat Board in its nation-wide activities aimed at the greater popularizing of meats to the end that there may be a greater consumption of those vital food products of the American ranches and ranges.

### *Truth-In-Fabric*

We request legislation, and establishment by wool manufacturers of standards, to provide labeling of fabrics and garments in a way to inform consumer purchasers regarding the presence of all adulterants or substitutes in materials sold as being partly or wholly composed of wool.

We consider that the furnishing of such information to the public would enhance the popularity of the better qualities of wool merchandise.

We also ask that under such a labeling plan, the term "all wool" and similar terms be attached only to such merchandise as contains no other fiber, except that provision shall be made for a tolerance of not more than one per cent by weight of pure fiber other than wool used for decorations.

We request legislation making it mandatory on the part of manufacturers of wool textiles of all kinds and manufacturers of ready-made and custom-made clothing, to adopt a system of labeling which will show the country of origin of such textiles.

### *Agricultural Adjustment*

We are opposed to the laying of excise taxes on domestic livestock or the products thereof.

### *Game Matters*

We offer our cooperation to those public-spirited organizations and individuals who are working so industriously for the promotion of wild life and the development of game resources accessible to our citizens having small opportunity for enjoyment of the outdoor life. We assure these interests that while we favor the propagation and preservation of wild life in proper places and reasonable numbers, yet that big game has increased upon public and private ranges in such numbers that many sections have been badly overgrazed. This has resulted in injury to the livestock customarily grazing upon the same lands as well as to the game themselves. In many cases, strong effort has been made to withdraw public lands that have been vitally associated with livestock production, to be used exclusively for game.



Some of the literature published, and claims made have, we feel, not been based upon full understanding of the facts or complete appreciation of the social and economic welfare of the communities connected with these lands. We ask the true friends of the wild life and game conservation movement to endeavor to combat misleading propaganda, and to aid the public in obtaining a fair view of the just claims and interests of the livestock industry so far as it must be connected with the general land areas upon which much of the game can and should be maintained.

Considering the enormous investments in farm and livestock enterprises of the West, and the damage to agriculture certain to result from an unbalanced program of big game propagation, we most earnestly urge that representatives of state and national associations of wool growers be sent to the conference on wild life which is to be held at Washington, D. C., commencing on February 3. We ask that these representatives express our viewpoint and assist in the development of a broad plan whereby the interests of our industry as well as those of the other interests and organizations will all receive proper regard and consideration in the perfection of the broad plan to which we offer our support.

Whereas, it is the earnest desire of all forward-looking citizens to provide for proper land use and the conservation and wise use of our natural resources, and

Whereas, there is a continuing disagreement, sometimes reaching acrimonious proportions, between the range livestock interests and the wild life interests in the western states, and

Whereas, the contentions undoubtedly will continue until or unless sound, basic, factual information dealing with both the scientific and practical phases of wild life and range management is secured; therefore be it

Resolved that we, the National Wool Growers Association, in convention assembled this 24th day of January, 1936, strongly urge that the wild life conference called by the President of the United States for the development of a tentative program for the conservation and restoration of wild life resources and held in the City of Washington, February 3 to 7, 1936, strongly recommends that provision be made by the federal government, in cooperation with state agencies, to make necessary surveys, secure and compile scientific and practical data, as will permit the proper evaluation of our wild life resources and our range livestock industries and will also indicate the proper place of each in the social and economic welfare of the country as a whole.

We urge the membership of the National Wool Growers Association to cooperate in every reasonable manner in assisting in the making of this investigation and study.

### *Sheep Diseases*

The disease of sheep known as "bighead" has been prevalent on certain ranges and trails in the intermountain territory for many years, and has taken an immense toll both in death loss and loss in production. As a result of the efforts of a large number of sheepmen to obtain relief from the excessive losses, the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry has been carrying on an investigation for the last two years in an effort to determine the cause of this disease. The results of this investigation indicate quite conclusively that certain range plants are the cause of the malady. Since treatment has been found very unsatisfactory, the only hope for relief lies in some practical system of prevention.

The National Wool Growers Association goes on record as favoring the continuance of this investigation and requests a close cooperation of the wool growers in the affected areas with the inspectors of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry who are conducting the investigation, in order that some system may be worked out which will prevent most of the loss. We direct that copies of this resolution be sent to our Senators and Congressmen from the wool growing states and also to Dr. J. R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C.

### *Wool Promotion*

The National Wool Growers Association requests all wool marketing agencies purchasing wool outright or handling wool on consignment to include as a part of all contracts, purchase orders, etc., the following clause:

I/we, the seller or consignor, hereby direct the buyer or consignee to deduct ten cents per bag in the settlement for this wool to be paid to the Associated Wool Industries as my subscription toward the current year's Wool Promotion Program.

Also we urge that every wool grower member of this organization do his part in the Wool Promotion Program by making certain that the above clause is a part of the contract which he signs. We further ask that each state association see that wool marketing agencies handling wool in their respective states include the above clause in all contracts.

### *Commendation and Thanks*

To the many stores, restaurants, and hotels of Salt Lake that have so generously featured lamb and wool throughout this convention, we extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation. To all those commercial concerns and individuals who made possible the most excellent style show at this convention, we are deeply indebted.

We take this opportunity to extend most generous thanks to the Utah Wool Growers and its Women's Auxiliaries, the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, the Management of the Hotel Utah, and others whose thoughtful attention to our comfort and entertainment has



made this Seventy-first Convention so thoroughly enjoyable and profitable. Our appreciation is also extended to the newspapers of Salt Lake City, the Associated Press and the United Press.

Through the mediums of wool exhibits, style shows, essay contests, meat cooking demonstrations, and otherwise, the Women's Auxiliaries are providing a type of promotional activity that is resulting in an increased demand for wool products and lamb. The National Wool Growers Association is deeply interested in these activities in behalf of the sheep industry and earnestly commends the auxiliaries for these valuable contributions to the advancement of our business. We are hopeful that there may be the largest possible extension of Women's Auxiliaries, compatible with sound organization procedure.

At this, the conclusion of the seventy-first year of the life of the National Wool Growers Association, we, the members of that organization, take this opportunity to express our most earnest and sincere appreciation of the efforts expended in our behalf by the President and the Executive Committee of the Association and for their diligence and self-sacrifice in our interests. To the Secretary and his staff, we want to publicly acknowledge our extremely high regard for their loyalty to us and the industry we represent, and for the large measure of success they have attained in connection with their duties.

W. D. Candland, Utah, Chairman  
A. A. Johns, Arizona  
L. B. Sylvester, Colorado  
S. W. McClure, Idaho  
Edward Sargent, New Mexico  
W. A. Holt, Oregon  
T. J. Drumheller, Washington  
Fred E. Warren, Wyoming

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS

In 1934, Congress passed what is known as the Taylor Grazing Act, the avowed purpose of this Act being to stabilize the livestock industry by placing 80 million acres of the public domain under federal regulation. Those who are directing this regulation now ask that the remaining public domain be placed under their supervision for similar regulation. For more than 50 years these public lands have been used without restraint by the people of the public land states. Under, and by reason of this common use, our western livestock industry has been established, which has resulted in the establishment of farms, cities, and other industries all more or less dependent upon the grazing use that is made of this public domain. At this late date, to attempt a hasty and complete regulation of these public lands upon which the entire West is in large measure dependent, means disorganization and confusion, not only to our livestock industry, but to all allied industries.

These lands have been used in common all these years; they have not been injured or greatly overgrazed and a few more weeks or months of such grazing will not be fatal to them. The wise regulation of such a vast and important body of land is a problem of such grave concern to the entire nation, that its proper solution only can be reached after mature and deliberate thought, and probably after many serious and expensive mistakes have been made. Such attempts to regulate the public domain as we have had to date are not reassuring, and make the necessity for deliberation greater than ever. It is our considered judgment that this regulation should have followed more careful planning and applied at the start to a smaller area, and those directing the work should have more fully adhered to the law, both in their public statements and in the regulations issued. In a few short months we have placed under the regulation 80 million acres without fully understanding how such regimentation was to be carried on. This has resulted in confusion, uncertainty, and ill feeling, all of which could have been avoided by a more deliberate procedure.

We, therefore, recommend that until the present set-up can be unscrambled and the rules and regulations can be more fully understood and agreed on, that there should be no increase in the acreage or number of districts now established.

It is our judgment that a great majority of the people in some of these public land states are of the opinion that the surface rights of these public lands belong to the states and should be granted to them in advance of the establishment of any program of regulation. Regulation means that the states will forever lose any right to their public lands. We, therefore, recommend that all states in which this feeling exists should have the right to their public lands, and we ask Congress to enact such legislation as will grant it to them.

We further recommend that before regulation is attempted, the Taylor Grazing Act should be amended so as to be made more specific in many of its provisions, and particularly in designating the persons who are entitled to a permit, and the procedure to be followed in obtaining the same. We also urge that the existing law be amended to provide for the election of state advisory boards and that the law shall designate that such members shall be stockmen who have prior right to the public domain and commensurate and dependent property, and that no rule or regulation be issued except with the consent and approval of such boards. If local self-government is to be the policy, let us define it in the law so that the boards that we elect may be free from bureaucratic domination. In the issuance of grazing permits, we insist that the law shall specify that these permits be issued on the following basis:

FIRST—Qualified applicants with dependent commensurate property with prior use.

**SECOND**—Qualified applicants who have prior use, but not adequate dependent commensurate property.

**THIRD**—Qualified applicants with dependent commensurate property but without prior use.

We do not approve all of the action taken by the recent conference of district advisers held in Salt Lake City. We shall never approve the methods used in the handling of that conference, or of the disregard shown to the recommendations of some of the states and advisory boards. We are unalterably opposed to the creation from within these boards of any national organization that will dictate to and supersede our existing state and national livestock organizations. We are likewise opposed to the designation of these board members as federal officials. They were elected as representatives of the livestock industry, and as such they must remain.

Finally, it is our recommendation that the President of the National Wool Growers Association be directed to appoint a legislative committee of three men to proceed to Washington and endeavor to have passed such amendments to the Taylor Grazing Act as will make it a law to stabilize the livestock industry.

T. C. Bacon, Idaho, Chairman  
A. A. Johns, Arizona  
G. N. Winder, Colorado  
W. G. Gilbert, Montana  
Floyd W. Lee, New Mexico  
S. M. Jorgensen, Utah  
T. J. Drumheller, Washington  
J. B. Wilson, Wyoming

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREST GRAZING

Over 100 million acres of grazing land of the western states is located inside boundaries of national forests. While the law governing administration of these forests includes no reference to grazing, since 1905 administrative officers have recognized that the growth of forage that can only be utilized by livestock is an important resource. Utilization of the forage by stockmen has been administered for 30 years through permits issued under rules and regulations formulated by these administrative officers.

The value of access to the forest grazing resources under these permits has largely been brought into the assessed valuation of the owned property of these permittees.

Although there is no law governing this system of permits, and in a technical sense these permits have not been legal contracts between the government and the stockmen, yet for 30 years these stockmen holding forests grazing permits have continued operations with confidence that the policies and methods of administration would not be drastically changed.

Failure to renew term permits in 1935 and enforcement of large and almost general reductions in numbers of livestock covered by permits have, to speak mildly, created a serious factor of instability in our industry.

Our discussions at the convention with Chief Forester Silcox and his associates have reassured us. We now feel that these officials understand and appreciate the position and claims of the stockmen. We have endeavored to impress them with the dependence of our communities upon the substantial continuation of the plan and policy of the administration as followed from 1905 to 1935.

A full knowledge of the facts of forest grazing will convince any citizen that the acts of these 30 years have been based upon a liberal interpretation of what promotes the best general social and economic conditions.

We, therefore, ask these officials to recognize the effects of their former actions and their moral obligations to our communities. We recognize that fair procedure for the future may permit the granting of new grazing permits in some cases. But so far as these are called for in promotion of social and economic welfare, they can be cared for under the room provided through the customary cuts on transferred permits and the surrender of permits by persons no longer in a position to use them.

The instability of the situation resulting from appearance of radical change in administration policy has been augmented by the drought conditions that have prevailed for several years, and particularly in 1934. We have not been in complete accord with forest officials in all cases in regard to the extent of reduction of grazing necessary for the conservation of the forest resources. We fully recognize the necessity of properly protecting the range, but we ask more consideration for wise utilization of conserved resources and with some flexibility under unusual and temporary seasonal conditions.

We must again urge that moral commitments and wise administration policy call for the issuing of permits for a term of at least ten years and with the minimum of provision for reduction for any cause during such period. We repeat our expressions of appreciation for our contacts with the forest officials at this convention. We urge an early official announcement of the plans and policies for the future and ask that our Association send representatives to Washington when, and as may be necessary, to present our views to these forest officials, or to others in executive or legislative positions and to those properly interested in the other resources of the forest lands.

James G. Brown, Colorado, Chairman  
W. P. Wing, California  
D. Sid Smith, Idaho  
Sylvester Broadbent, Utah  
T. J. Drumheller, Washington

## REPORT OF MARKETING COMMITTEE *Capper, Hope and Wearin Bills*

We strenuously oppose any effort to interfere with the free marketing of livestock, and at this time voice our strong opposition to such proposed legislation, such as the Capper bill, which is now before Congress.

### **Investigation of Central Markets**

We recommend that this Association continue its efforts to protect the interests of the sheep industry by securing data relative to lamb market abuses and practices and that it place the information obtained before the proper officials.

### **Marketing Charges**

We commend the United States Department of Agriculture in its fair and diligent efforts to obtain reasonable and equitable rates in the yardage and selling charges of our lambs and sheep at the public markets.

We recommend legislation, if necessary, be enacted to expedite pending hearings and bring to a successful conclusion all untried cases.

### **Prevention of Shipping Losses**

The amount of the proceeds from our lambs and sheep when shipped depends considerably on the condition in which they arrive for slaughter. Many unnecessary bruises and losses occur which through careful handling can be eliminated.

We heartily endorse the work of the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board in its efforts to eliminate these losses. We urge all handlers of sheep and lambs from growers to packer to cooperate in preventing these bruises and death losses.

### **Livestock Market Reporting Agencies**

As direct shipments of sheep and lambs are now included in reporting the total market receipts, we ask those agencies compiling same to quote them separately.

We also ask that information should be given in the market reports segregating "fats" and "feeders."

We appreciate the very valuable livestock market reports issued by the Federal Livestock Market News Service of the Division of Agricultural Economics and the other statistical information relative to the livestock industry issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Commerce request their continuance.

### **Crop Control**

We do not desire production or crop control on either wool, lambs or sheep. We, therefore, ask that no such program be proposed by federal agencies or our products be included under any proposed legislation of this character.

We insist that in any crop reduction plan for other agricultural commodities, if such a program embraces taking land out of production, that such land then shall not be used for sheep grazing.

### **Lamb and Meat Advertising**

We express our keen appreciation to all those agencies from producers to packers for assisting in raising funds for the meat promotional activities of the National Livestock and Meat Board. In this connection we especially wish to thank the various livestock commission agencies.

We urge all packers and wholesale butchers who purchase livestock at country points for direct shipment to deduct 25 cents per car from the sellers' account sales or proportional amount on truck shipments for the support of this most important program. We thank the various buyers of livestock who are helping in this program at the present time.

### **United States Senate Wool Investigating Committee**

During the last session of Congress the United States Senate appointed a special wool committee, composed of Senators Steiwer, Adams, Carey, Hatch, and Murray, to investigate the present system of marketing wool in the United States through cooperatives and dealers. We commend the efforts of this committee to aid the wool growing industry. We urge all wool growers having helpful information to cooperate with this Senate Wool Investigating Committee.

### **Branding and Stamping of Wool Goods**

We ask that all woven fabrics, except floor coverings, imported into the United States be stamped by the original manufacturer and the garment manufacturer in such a manner that the consumer of the goods may know the country of origin.

### **Tag Discounts**

Tag discounts, whether uniform or not, are unfair to the grower. Therefore, the practice of the wool dealers in applying such tag discounts should be abolished. Excessive discounts on black wool, when packed separately, also are arbitrary and uncalled for.

Tags in wool increase the shrinkage of the clip. The percentage of tags at present varies enormously in various sections of the United States. If all wool is purchased strictly on its merits, the tags present will be reflected in the shrinkage and thus should influence the price accordingly. A tag discount, or an excessive discount for black wool packed separately, gives the dealer free of charge, a commodity which he later sells for cash.

We, therefore, ask that legislative action be taken to abolish the practice of making tag discounts and excessive discounts for black wool packed separately. We also ask that this matter be placed before the Federal Trade Commission and the United States Senate Wool Investigating Committee.

S. P. Arbios, California, Chairman  
 Jerrie W. Lee, Arizona  
 A. H. Long, Colorado  
 A. H. Caine, Idaho  
 H. C. Gardiner, Montana  
 Edward Sargent, New Mexico  
 C. E. Grelle, Oregon  
 T. J. Drumheller, Washington  
 Francis E. Warren, Wyoming



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PREDATORY ANIMALS

We, your Committee on Predatory Animal and Rodent Control, having studied much valuable data and resolutions submitted by the livestock states of the West, respectively submit for your consideration the following recommendations:

We desire to call to your attention that there was approved by the 71st Congress on March 6, 1931, a bill authorizing a ten-year program for the support of predatory and rodent control by the Biological Survey whereby one million dollars was to be appropriated each year for a period of ten years. There was expended from regular funds in 1931 some \$608,000 for the above mentioned purposes and the amounts have gradually decreased each year until in 1935 there was actually expended \$441,354.

This decrease has so crippled the work of the Biological Survey and cooperating agencies until their work has ceased to become effective, thereby creating an intense feeling among individuals and organizations that a return to some other means of control must be provided. An increased use of the bounty system has been suggested. Past experiences have indicated that this system cannot be effective unless upon a nation-wide basis and under some sort of federal control.

Our findings would indicate that lack of proper funds is the real problem. An appropriation of one million dollars per year, as authorized in 1931, but never fulfilled, is the only proper solution. To this end we earnestly urge our membership to make a more unified effort for this appropriation.

We also find that, in spite of the ever-increasing complaints of not only livestock raisers of the West but also those of small farmers, ranchers and sportsmen's organizations, our state and county governments have been delinquent in making the necessary appropriations to make this control work effective. We would suggest that, in presenting arguments for increased funds, emphasis be placed upon the importance of agriculture and livestock in the economic set-up of each state in which predatory animal control work is carried on. It would be well to consider the value of farms, grazing lands, equipment, etc., used in connection with the livestock, as well as the enormous losses each year to agriculture, game animals, and birds. The presentation of a well-balanced and specific argument should receive greater consideration.

We would call to your attention that the Interior and Agricultural Departments of the United States are now in control of practically all federal lands. It is not unreasonable that we ask and expect reasonable support, both financial and physical, for the work of the Federal Biological Survey upon those lands so controlled by

these departments. We would request that portions of the fees collected by them be used for this purpose. If these areas are not made more useful and of greater value, they will not justify the users' costs in the form of grazing fees.

We would further remind government agencies of the enormous sums of government monies invested in farm and livestock loans. This equity should be protected from losses by their support of an increased appropriation for predatory and rodent control.

The National Parks Service prohibits the destruction of all predators on the park areas. Animals protected on most of these areas drift to adjoining ranges, causing heavy losses upon agriculture and useful wild life. We recommend that control of predators on these park areas be permitted to the extent that they will not be a menace on adjoining public or private range.

We urge members of the livestock organizations to closely watch the actions of state legislators in regard to game laws that materially affect control of predators in livestock districts. Past experiences prove that compromises can be made in most cases that are beneficial to all interested parties. A closer relationship between game governing bodies and livestock men has accomplished marvelous results in many states. We must continue to impress upon these sportsmen's organizations and others the inestimable value of predator control to beneficial types of wild life.

We commend the use of FERA and WPA funds for predatory animal control under the direction of the Bureau of Biological Survey, and urge all members of livestock organizations to cooperate and make more strenuous efforts for the extension of this work.

Rodent control work during 1935 in most of the western states received more attention and assistance than predatory animal destruction. This was due to the extensive work done through CCC Camps, drought relief, and other federal agencies. It is just as important to our industry as to farmers that the extermination of the rabbits, gophers, and the ground squirrels be continued. We are pleased to say that this cooperative work was of material value to agricultural interests, and we earnestly urge its continuation this coming year.

We instruct our National Association to proceed in every way possible to carry out the thought and intent of these resolutions.

J. G. Barratt, Oregon, Chairman  
 Jerrie W. Lee, Arizona  
 Mrs. H. C. Compton, California  
 Paul Jensen, Colorado  
 F. S. Gedney, Idaho  
 Sidney S. Gottlieb, New Mexico  
 Abe Hansen, Utah  
 T. J. Drumheller, Washington  
 H. J. King, Wyoming



# The State Conventions in January

UNUSUALLY large attendances and keen interest characterized the conventions held in January by the wool growers' associations in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana and Utah. The schedule was arranged to permit all of the state organizations holding winter meetings to complete their business in advance of the opening of the national convention. This plan has proved quite satisfactory, though a few states have requested that the arrangement be reversed in 1937 to provide for the holding of the national meeting early in January, to be followed by the various state conventions.

At the Idaho and Utah meetings, Taylor Act affairs held the center of the stage, bringing considerable discussion and resulting in adoption of reports, which on the whole were rather severely critical of the administration of this act by the Division of Grazing.

Mr. Warren Drew, representing the Associated Wool Industries, appeared on the program at each of the meetings to explain the lines of activity in promoting wool consumption as carried on by the joint organization of wool manufacturers, dealers, and growers.

At each session of the Oregon convention, President Barratt announced that voting would be open only to members whose dues were paid up. Collections were quite heavy during the convention and the association gained considerable strength which is rapidly placing it in the front rank of wool grower organizations.

The representation of wool-handling concerns was unusually large in all of the meetings. There was keen interest in learning of the probable condition of the 1936 clip, and also as to growers' ideas of prices. No contracting transactions were reported during the conventions,



H. A. SNYDER  
New President of the Montana  
Wool Growers Association

though this activity opened up in Utah and Colorado soon afterward.

The question of wool marketing was not prominent in any of the convention programs, it apparently being the idea to await the report of the United States Senate Investigating Committee, and to consider wool marketing next winter in the light of facts which may be revealed through that report.

President Ellenwood addressed the meetings in Washington, Montana and Utah, and Secretary Marshall attended those in Idaho, Oregon and Utah. Presidents were reelected in all states except Montana where Harry A. Snyder was elected to succeed W. G. Gilbert, and Dr. H. C. Gardiner was named as vice president.

It has been found impossible to print, in this issue, detailed reports on the programs presented at the state meetings, or of the discussions

that took place in connection with program subjects, resolutions, and committee reports. The talks of chief interest and positions taken on them in the various states are shown in the summary of the actions taken at the five meetings as printed on this page.

## Official Acts of the Five State Conventions

WHAT western wool growers are thinking about many matters that affect their business and which cannot be handled by individual action is well shown in the committee reports and resolutions adopted in recent annual conventions.

The official platform and program of the National Wool Growers Association as adopted at its seventy-first annual convention is printed in full in this issue of the Wool Grower.

In this article we present a brief summary of the action taken by five state conventions which were held in January in the following order: Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Utah. The New Mexico convention is in session as this issue of the Wool Grower goes to press.

### Tariff

All of the five associations registered objection to the system of tariff-making through reciprocal trade agreements and favored retention of import duties on livestock and agricultural products, at least as high as those prescribed in the law of 1930. Idaho asked for the repeal of the reciprocal trade agreement act of 1934. Oregon called for no change in the present duties. Washington favored the present rates and opposed reciprocal trade agreements. Montana not only requested the repeal of the act of 1934, but called for the "abrogation of existing trade

treaties, tariff, or agreements detrimental to agriculture." Utah expressed opposition to "trade agreements or treaties that will allow the entry into this country of materials of which we can produce an adequate supply." It was also demanded that trade agreements under the act of 1934 be approved by Congress before becoming effective.

### *Argentine Imports*

Four of the conventions voted to request their senators to oppose confirmation of the Argentine Sanitary Convention which has been before the Committee on Foreign Relations since last summer, and which would have the effect of repealing Section 306 of the present tariff law. This section prohibits importations of live animals, fresh, frozen, or chilled meats, from any country in which foot-and-mouth disease is known to exist.

### *Taylor Grazing Act*

The Idaho report presented the idea that regulation of public ranges in that state has not been shown to be necessary. No comment was made on the proposal to extend the area that may be included in grazing districts, but the association asked for an opportunity to criticize any amendments to the present form of the Taylor Grazing Act that may be under consideration by Congress.

The Oregon Association recommended "the consolidation of all federal grazing administration in one division specifically charged with the responsibility of administering and developing the grazing resources on such lands, and asked that such a division be set up in the Department of Agriculture and its work coordinated with that of other bureaus engaged in promoting and fostering other phases of national agricultural development."

The Montana report largely favored the present administration of the Taylor Act, but went on to ask that the Department of the Interior cooperate with the Montana State

Grazing Commission by allowing federal lands lying within Taylor districts to be handled under the Montana state law.

The Utah Association expressed opposition to recent rulings of Taylor Act officials on classification of owned property with respect to its nearness to a district. Acceptable definitions of dependent and commensurate property were offered, and "nearness" was defined as "close enough to be used in connection with public range in the district in the usual and customary livestock operations."

Utah also asked that no fees should be charged until term permits are issued, and then in amounts not to exceed one-half a cent per sheep per month. Utah also opposed the grouping of state lands into large bodies for administration independent of the Taylor Act.

### *Predatory Animals*

All of the states asked for additional federal, state, or local funds for predatory animal work.

Idaho asked for \$10,000 from the state general fund for use along with county funds now raised by special tax levies.

Oregon asked for a state appropriation of \$60,000 to match county appropriations. It was also asked that Congress appropriate one fourth of the net revenue from Taylor grazing districts for expenditure under the direction of the Biological Survey.

Washington asked its state legislature for a special grant of \$10,000 to be raised by tax levies on all livestock.

The Montana convention instructed its Secretary to arrange a meeting of all interests concerned with the predatory animal problem and asked the Secretary of the Interior to allot P.W.A. funds sufficient to make operative the ten-year plan authorized by Congress in 1931.

The Utah report also asked for federal appropriations of one million dollars per year for predatory animal

and rodent work and expressed criticism of some of the higher officials of the Biological Survey for lack of attention to predatory animal work. It was recommended that local stockmen give a bounty to supplement the wages of P.W.A. workers during the months in which coyote furs have no commercial value.

### *Markets*

Idaho, Montana, and Utah expressed strong opposition to legislation such as is proposed in the Capper marketing bill now on the Senate Calendar. Montana also asked that the present bill be recommitted to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry for further hearing. Idaho asked for expedition of incomplete cases on stockyards and commission charges and for action on such charges at all markets for which the rates have not yet been considered by the P. S. Y. A.

Washington asked for a review by federal authorities of the charges for yardage at the St. Paul market.

Montana asked that collection at the markets for the National Live Stock and Meat Board now made in the amount of 25 cents per car should be increased to \$1.00 per car.

Oregon expressed approval of the grading of all meats and requested the State College Extension Service to make a study and to put on an educational program to acquaint livestock producers with the details of the grading movement.

Utah requested packers to mark lamb carcasses and wholesale cuts with their brand name.

### *Freight Rates*

Idaho, Oregon, and Utah went on record in opposition to the Pettengill bill now before Congress and which would largely nullify the present law pertaining to rates on long and short hauls.

Idaho opposed efforts made by railroads to collect extra charges for loading, unloading, and other service for livestock enroute to markets.

Oregon requested livestock service from interior points on the Union Pacific Railroad to Portland for less than carload lots at the same rate now applied on regular shipments, this service to be offered one day each week. It was also asked that the railroads make substantial reduction upon rates to be in line with similar rates recently published in other states to meet truck competition.

Washington asked for the establishment of round-trip rates on sheep shipped to summer ranges, and for a reduction in the charge now collected in the amount of 8½ cents per hundred pounds for feeding in transit. A committee of three was appointed to meet railroad officials in an attempt to make satisfactory arrangements on these points.

The Montana convention asked the State Sanitary Board to devise methods of laying the dust in railroad loading corrals at shipping time. Attention of shippers was called to the importance of checking freight charges on feeder lambs, because of the fact that such stock shipped to central markets must pay the same rate as fat livestock, but when shipped out to the country, it is allowed the benefit of the lower feeder rates for the entire distance traveled. Support was also promised to Los Angeles, Ogden, and Salt Lake interests that are endeavoring to have through-rates on livestock to California markets made applicable via the shortest routes. Railroads were also requested to discontinue the leasing out of their feed yards and to take charge of the servicing of shipments stopped for feed, rest, and water when enroute to market.

### Wool Marketing

The Idaho Association asked for the discontinuance of the custom of the buyers of making discounts for tags in the purchasing of wool from the country.

Oregon arranged for the appointment of a committee to investigate the feasibility of establishing wool auctions, such committee to report

in the next convention. Appreciation was also expressed for the work of the Senate Committee that is investigating wool marketing methods and practices.

Montana asked that the commission charges for handling consigned wools be reduced to 1½ cents per pound.

### Forest Grazing

Idaho insisted that the lack of ten-year permits for grazing on national forests is undermining the stability of the industry and destroying the security of producers through lack of ability to show loan agencies assurance of continuation in business.

Oregon protested reductions in forest grazing permits except where an actual damage to the forage was apparent. The burning of the underbrush and cleaning up of down-timber was also asked as a means of permitting better utilization of the forest grazing resources.

Montana asserted that absence of ten-year permits had created confusion and impaired stability and credit standing. It was urged that ten-year permits be issued immediately, subject only to such reductions of numbers as may be necessary for conservation purposes, and that such reductions be restored to present permits when conditions warrant.

Utah considered that it is neither "wise, legal, or right to reduce one permittee for the purpose of increasing permits of others, or to put a new man into the business at the expense of those already in the livestock business and having properties that are dependent upon national forest permits." The issuance of ten-year permits in 1936 was called for, these to be subject to reduction for range protection only, and such reductions to be agreed upon through a program worked out in cooperation with the permittees.

### Game

Oregon asked that a member of the wool growers' association should be given a place as a member of the

State Game Commission. It was also asked that the President's proclamation respecting the Hart Mountain Antelope Reserve be reconsidered, and that the jurisdiction over game areas in which prior use for game is recognized be continued with the Division of Grazing. A special committee was provided for to inform the public of the actual facts in respect to game conditions and for the correction of widely circulated propaganda and misinformation.

Utah wool growers expressed approval of the propagation and preservation of wild life in proper places and in reasonable numbers, but asked for legislation to protect farmers whose crops have been damaged by game animals, and also to protect citizens and animals from injury by licensed hunters. The State Board of Big Game Control was commended for authorizing the removal of 330 doe deer, and 346 elk in 1935.

### Wool Promotion

All states went on record in favor of the collection by wool buyers and commission houses of ten cents per bag to be paid to the Associated Wool Industries, and to be used in the promoting of wool consumption.

### Less Coyote Trouble

I HAVE heard fewer reports of coyote trouble this winter than in former years, and I believe it is due to the very efficient work of the U. S. Biological Survey hunters in our county. We have not lost a sheep by coyotes in over a year. I might state that before the Biological hunters were employed, our losses some years would run into the hundreds.

We have had no snow this winter, but much more rain than we needed, and feed has grown nicely.

Practically no one feeds during the winter in this locality. There has been no increase in breeding ewes to speak of and only enough ewe lambs were retained to keep ewe bands normal.

Garberville, Calif. C. T. Madsen



# Around the Range Country

THE notes on weather conditions, appearing under the names of the various states in Around the Range Country, are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of January.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

Ewes in this section are of a younger average age than for some time past and are about in the same number.

The state paid no bounty last year, which, I believe, is the reason for the increase in coyotes.

R. S. Hurtt

## Cheyenne

Weather and feed conditions are about 100 per cent (February 2), much better than for several years past. We are feeding about the usual number of sheep. Native hay in the stack can be purchased around \$7 a ton.

Our breeding bands are about the same size as those for 1935, but the ewes are somewhat younger. Most sheepmen, we believe, were able to retain more of their ewe lambs for stock purposes than in previous seasons.

Coyotes are not troublesome here as the country is open and dry farmers run them down with cars and hounds.

Hirsig Sheep Company

## Clark

The snowfall is considerably less (February 1) than in previous years and feed conditions are just average. We are feeding about the same number of sheep. Alfalfa hay, in the stack, is priced at \$6 to \$7 a ton.

I would judge that slightly fewer ewes have been bred this year. There has been considerable culling of the flocks around here which has left them with a great percentage of young ewes. Fewer ewe lambs were kept last fall for replacements.

The withdrawal of government trappers in 1933 and 1934 accounts for the great increase in coyotes in this section.

J. O. Higham

## WYOMING

Cold weather persisted generally, nearly the entire month, with only a few really mild days. Occasional storms kept snow in evidence generally over the state, attaining considerable depths at the higher elevations, but the relative moisture content was lighter than usual because of the low temperatures. Notable shrinkages with a few losses were reported among livestock, due partly to snow cover in the extreme western and northern portions. The range is fair to good over the east and little feeding has been required.

## Tensleep

Weather and feed conditions are good here at this time (January 11), although feed is rather short on the ranges.

Sales of yearling crossbred ewes were made this season at \$6 to \$7 a head. The number of yearlings on hand is about the same as in other years, and generally the ewe bands are somewhat younger than in recent years.

W. S. Fiscus.

## Chugwater

Feed is good (January 10), and conditions on the range are good. We have had some snow and down to zero weather. Alfalfa is selling at \$6 over in the Platte Valley, 60 miles away. We feed concentrates mostly.

I think about the same number of ewes are bred to lamb this year as in 1935. Most of the old ewes have been sold, hence the age of the bands is good, and probably a few more lambs were kept last fall than in the previous year to make replacements.

Coyotes are more numerous than two or three years ago, due, in my opinion, to the cheapness of the pelts.

No offers have been made yet on 1936 wool.

Very little liquidating of sheep outfits by creditors is going on. Very few of the sheepmen are now being financed by government agencies; most of them have returned to the regular banks. The interest charged by such banks for loans on sheep is from 7 to 8 per cent, while that by government agencies, I believe, is 5 per cent.

Herders are getting \$35 a month.

L. G. Harding

## Newcastle

We have more snow on the range (January 30) than during the past few years, and feed is the best in recent years. Conditions on the whole are much better in this respect than they have been at the same time for several years past. The range sheep are doing well on grass and there has been very little feeding of hay or cake so far this winter. No sales of hay have been made recently, but prices from \$5 to \$8 have been mentioned.



## MONTANA

The first two weeks were warm; then followed some zero temperatures, and while a few days of warm weather were noted, exceptionally cold weather persisted into the early days of February. Moderate to heavy snows occurred fairly generally, benefiting winter grains and forage, and improving the prospective water supply. Some soils, however, still remain extremely dry. Livestock have required heavier feeding as a result of the snow and colder weather, though they average fair to good and are using much of the winter range.

### Glendive

We have plenty of feed, but 12 inches of snow also and some very cold weather (January 29). In fact, this is the hardest winter we have had for several years. The range was very good, but it has been covered with snow since early December. It is snowing nearly every day, without thaws and drifting, so we now have a good 12 inches of solid snow. Thermometer has been running from zero to as much as 36 below.

Hay is \$10 to \$12 a ton in the stack, but the number of range sheep getting feed this winter is slightly smaller than it was last year.

A smaller number of ewes has been bred to lamb this year, but ewe lambs were kept last fall for breeding purposes in about the same proportions as in previous years. The ewes, as a whole, are older, many bands up to six years old.

Coyotes seem to be fewer as a result of more private trapping the past year.

Dien & Jones

## IDAHO

Temperatures were mostly mild until the closing days, when it turned much colder. Frequent rains or snows earlier in the month were highly beneficial to grains and ranges; but heavy snows at the end of the month blocked highways and

hampered livestock handling in the southeastern portion. Nevertheless, livestock on farms and on the winter ranges, have held up in fairly good condition. Little outdoor work has been possible the last two days. The water prospects have been improved.

### Boise

Weather conditions were good for feeding during December; not many sheep are on the range after the 20th of that month.

Although there are not so many old ewes in the flocks here, there are still too many of them. About the same number are bred to lamb this spring.

Only a few sheep outfits have been closed out in this section. I think about 80 per cent of the sheepmen are being financed by federal loaning agencies, which are charging 5 per cent interest. The interest rate of regular banks is 8 per cent.

L. D. Gillenwater

### Moreland

Conditions here are better than they were last year. While there is deep snow on the range, we have more hay to feed than a year ago and it can be bought in the stack at from \$6 to \$7 a ton.

More ewes have been bred than a year ago and there are fewer old ewes in the bands. I think quite a number of ewe lambs were sold for mutton last fall.

Coyotes are on the up, as there are a lot of rabbits for them to feed on.

H. A. Grimmett

## WASHINGTON

Temperatures near or above normal prevailed until the last week or ten days, when it turned appreciably colder. Moderate to copious precipitation, mostly rain, occurred fairly generally. The wheat belt was fairly well protected by snow cover when the weather turned cold. Vegetation, including early flowers, made some growth in the western portion late in the month, where the cold snap did not penetrate. Livestock are

doing well, being mostly on feed. Lambing is getting under way.

### Hellgate

The weather has been fair to good, with plenty of moisture, both snow and rain. Feed on the winter range is only fair, short on green feed due to the early cold spell. From \$8 to \$10 is being asked for alfalfa hay in the stack.

The sheepmen seem to be making the grade financially also, as very few, if any, outfits have been liquidated in recent years. I think possibly 75 per cent of them are borrowing through the agencies that discount with the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank. These institutions are charging about 5 per cent interest and regular banks up to 7 per cent.

I think breeding has been done on about the same scale as a year ago. The ewes run from one to seven years in age. The number of lambs kept for stock purposes was 10 per cent short of the 1934 figure.

Very little trapping has been done in the past two or three years and coyotes have increased on that account.

Hellgate Sheep Company

### Ellensburg

Green grass started six weeks later than last year. Then we had green grass from October on, but this year it did not start until November. It is extra good in the Horse Heaven country.

As near as I know there are 2½ to 3 per cent more ewes on feed than at this time (January 31) last year. Hay is cheaper than a year ago. It is \$7 a ton in the stack as against \$8 to \$9 last year.

From 2 to 3 per cent more ewes have been bred this year, nearly all of them to blackfaced rams. There are fewer aged ewes in the bands than two years ago.

The last legislature wouldn't appropriate anything for the predatory animal work and coyotes are increasing rapidly as a result.

K. O. Kohler

**McColl**

Feed is dry, but there's plenty of it (February 3). The weather is really nice, although conditions have been good also during the previous two or three years. About the usual number of sheep are being fed. No. 1 alfalfa can be had at \$6 to \$7 a ton.

About the same number of ewes have been bred. We do not raise many ewe lambs and we buy few from Oregon. On account of good prices for old ewes last fall, they were sold freely, so the ages of those left are better than they were a year ago.

Coyotes caused plenty of trouble last year, but so far we haven't been bothered much yet, but expect plenty of trouble at lambing. On account of low prices of pelts, private trappers are not anxious to trap, and there is very little money appropriated by the state and federal governments, so the coyotes are on the increase.

Etulain Bros.

**OREGON**

Mild temperatures prevailed the first three weeks, followed by much colder weather, especially at night. Heavy rains came to western Oregon, stopping field work and hampering work with livestock. Fairly heavy snows came to the mountains and some snow over the eastern winter range territory. Most livestock have been continued in fair to good shape as they have been within reach of plenty of forage.

**Crane**

The weather is good (January 27) and the range feed just fair. There has been a lot of snow in the mountains and rain in the lower country, but we had a dry fall and so there is not much grass. However, our prospects for hay and grass during the present year are better than they have been for five years.

A larger number of sheep are getting feed now than a year ago. We do not have much alfalfa here, but wild hay is quoted at \$5 to \$6 a ton.

Fewer ewes have been bred. The old sheep in our bands have been culled and we also kept more lambs last fall for replacements.

C. P. Weittenhill

**Baker**

Lambing in our section has just begun (January 31) under very favorable weather conditions. We have much more snow than in previous years, but it is good feeding weather. Not so many ewes are being fed, however, as a year ago. Hay is from \$6 to \$7 a ton.

I do not believe as many ewes were bred to lamb this year; likewise fewer lambs were kept for breeding purposes.

Fewer trappers at work on account of low fur prices is the cause of the increase in coyotes, in my opinion.

Fred Widman

**Paisley**

Feed is short (January 25). Prospects are much better than they were a year ago, but there is not so much feed. We have had a lot of moisture on the desert.

More sheep are being fed than a year ago. Alfalfa hay is priced at \$6 a ton, while wild meadow hay can be bought at \$5.

Ewes of young ages are predominant in most bands of this district, but the number bred is about 5 per cent below last year's. I think about the usual number of ewe lambs were retained by owners last fall.

Coyotes are much more numerous as the result of reduction in number of hunters and ineffective work generally.

John V. Withers

**Union**

The weather is good (February 5) and all stock are on hay. Conditions are very similar to those of a year ago, with plenty of feed and the stock looking well. Hay can be had at \$7.50 a ton in the stack.

Our ewe bands are about 10 per cent short in number as compared

to a year ago, but will average somewhat younger, due to the better prices for old ewes that prevailed last fall. Sheepmen have kept about the same number of ewe lambs for breeding purposes the last three years.

I think coyotes are less numerous than a year ago here in Union County, as the pelts were fair in price and the animals were trapped more closely.

W. H. Woodruff

**CALIFORNIA**

Warm weather prevailed. Precipitation has continued below normal generally, being much below normal over the middle and southern portions; however, general rains in late January and the first few days of February greatly improved crops and pasture conditions, especially in the middle and southern portions. As pastures have been only fair to poor much of the time, the condition of livestock is only fairly good, as a rule.

**Plymouth**

We are having a fine, open winter here, with good feed and good prospects for 1936 (January 10). There is no outside range here; the flocks are run in fenced fields.

There was an increase of 10 per cent in the number of ewes bred last fall. Most of the ewes are old as the farm flocks have been kept too long.

We get more or less cooperation from adjoining counties in fighting predatory animals, but not so many capable trappers are being kept at work.

H. Jameson

**Clovis**

We are having big frosts every morning. It is dry and there is no feed on the west side of this valley. This time last year (January 30) we had an abundance of green feed.

If it doesn't rain within the next 15 days, a good many sheep will have to be moved to other parts of the state.

(Continued to page 48)

## California's Position on Report of Committee on Public Lands

THE following statement was presented by W. P. Wing, the California member of the Committee on Public Lands at the recent national convention, after the presentation of the committee report:

The California Wool Growers Association at its last annual convention, and through its members represented at the Grazing Conference held at Salt Lake City January 13 and 14, expressed its appreciation of the work of F. R. Carpenter, Director of Grazing, U. S. Department of the Interior, in setting up two grazing districts on the public domain in California and the members representative of the California Wool Growers Association in attendance at said Grazing Conference expressed their approval of this action taken which included asking for elimination of the 80,000,000-acre limitation and designation of classes of permits as agreed upon at the Grazing Conference, January 13-14, 1936.

We have not received a word of protest from our members who are licensees under the Taylor Grazing Conference, and until such protest is registered with us, we do not feel we have a right to seek a change in the action taken at the Grazing Conference.

We, therefore, are not in a position to sign the report of the Committee on Public Lands and desire to present this statement of our position and ask that this statement be placed in the next issue of the National Wool Grower.

A State Advisory Board, as suggested in the majority report, we do not believe would be workable or advisable in California.

We in California believe we are indeed fortunate in having F. R. Carpenter as director of grazing of the U. S. Department of the Interior.

## Not Required to Record Sheep Brands

THE recording of sheep brands is required by law in some states. Many flocks in Texas and a few in other states have permanent fire-brands on the nose or cheek which have been found highly useful in the recovery of stolen animals.

The last session of the Washington legislature passed a law compelling the recording of all brands. Range sheep operators were opposed to the act and have protested its enforcement. The Attorney General

of that state recently rendered an opinion which exempts these outfits from complying with the law so far as paint brands are concerned. In his decision, the Attorney General said, "Since paint marks on sheep are not permanent brands, it is not necessary that they be recorded under the Livestock Brand Recording Law now in effect."

## Cattlemen's National Convention

A RECORD attendance of nearly one thousand cattle raisers reported at Phoenix, Arizona, for the 39th annual convention of the American National Live Stock Association on January 7-10. The 1937 convention is set for El Paso, Texas.

Charles E. Collins retired from the presidency of the Association and was succeeded by Albert K. Mitchell of New Mexico.

Hubbard Russell, Los Angeles, is now first vice president. Other vice presidents are Frank S. Boice, Sonoma, Arizona; Fred A. Hobart, Canadian, Texas; Herman Oliver, John Day, Oregon; J. Elmer Brock, Kaycee, Wyoming; and Thomas Jones, Midland, S. D.

The 23 resolutions adopted by the convention included the following expressions of policy and recommendations:

Condemned Canadian Trade Agreement and asked that future agreements be ratified by the United States Senate.

Requested a duty of 6 cents a pound on imported green cattle hides, kip and calf skins.

It was suggested to the Farm Credit Administration that the government of production credit associations "be left entirely with the directors elected by those associations and that these directors be not subject to removal by reason of political affiliations or vocation."

Appointment of a committee to go to Washington to observe public land legislation and for other purposes.

The Association's legislative committee was "instructed to investigate central market abuses and practices and take necessary steps to bring the facts before the proper officials, and to develop, with other branches of the industry, plans to improve the markets and stabilize prices."

By a vote of 59 to 7, the same committee

was instructed to aid in the preparation of a bill providing for compulsory grading and stamping of all beef to be moved in interstate commerce.

It was resolved "that we again insist on the immediate necessity of reissuing long-term forest grazing permits to established users" and "that the time has arrived when in most cases it is not only no longer useful but also economically unsound to reduce permits for distribution."

The convention opposed further curtailment of the use by stockmen of Indian reservation lands.

It was requested that a part of the revenue from national forests be allotted to various state departments for the policing of the cattle industry.

It was proposed that legislation be enacted to require that there be placed on all shoes, labels to indicate correctly the character of the material used therein.

## Annual Corriedale Meeting

THE American Corriedale Association held its annual meeting at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel, Denver, January 20, 1936.

Following the suggestion of Mr. A. C. Gould of Beechwood, Michigan, the President and the Secretary of the Association were selected to serve as a committee to approach Corriedale breeders who have recently instituted a new association in Chicago. This committee was instructed to iron out any differences which now exist in the hope that these breeders may return to the Association.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the waiving of penalties for late registration be continued during 1936 and that registration and transfer fees remain at 50 and 25 cents respectively. Half of the registration fee and all of the membership fees are to be used for breed promotional work.

The Acting Secretary announced that he had secured a \$400 Corriedale classification for the livestock show to be held next fall as part of the Texas Centennial at Dallas.

Officers elected were: H. T. Blood, Denver, president; Leslie L. Crane, Santa Rosa, Calif., vice president; and F. S. Hultz, Cheyenne, Wyo., secretary-treasurer.



# The President's Annual Address

*Delivered by F. A. Ellenwood Before the Seventy-First Annual  
Convention of the National Wool Growers Association*

## History and Origin

IT seems fitting to review the history of this great organization, occasionally, to acquaint the younger generation with the facts and to renew the faith and loyalty of the old timers who have been supporting with both time and money the great work carried on by the Association. This year may be especially fitting as it marks approximately the half-way mile-post in point of service and leadership as between the East and the West.

Official records recite the fact that on Tuesday, December 12, 1865, Articles of Association and By-laws of the National Wool Growers Association were adopted at a meeting of representative sheepmen of the United States at Syracuse, New York. In all probability wool growers had met on previous occasions to discuss the welfare of their business and a preliminary organization meeting may have occurred as early as 1864, but no entry covering such an event has been found in the minute book of the Association.

Even with 1865 marking its beginning the National Wool Growers Association has the distinction of being the oldest national organization of livestock raisers in the United States, and certainly no association could have a more interesting historical background for its birth than the sheepmen's organization had. It will be recalled that in the spring of 1865, the long, weary struggle of the Civil War ended and the stupendous problems of reconstruction faced the country, not the least of which was that of building up its depleted treasury. On March 3, 1865, President Lincoln signed the amendatory act of

that date, which called for the appointment by the Secretary of the Treasury of a commission of three men to study and make recommendations as to the most feasible methods of securing governmental revenue. The day after signing this document, Lincoln commenced his second term as President of the United States. Six Weeks later he was assassinated and the nation was left to carry on as best it could without his leadership.

The revenue commission, the first in American history, set up by the amendatory act of March 3, 1865, was fully organized and ready for work by June of that year, with David A. Wells of New York, Stephen Colwell of Pennsylvania, and Samuel Snowden Hayes of Illinois serving as its members. The importance of the sheep industry and the need for its proper protection were fully recognized by the commission; in fact, as stated in their report, their attention was "specially directed to sheep husbandry, and manufacturers of wool, as not only of great national importance, but as suitable to illustrate the whole subject of the relation of industry to revenue." Proper representation before the commission was, of course, very necessary for both branches of the industry. The manufacturers were already organized and they had invited the wool growers to meet with them for a consideration and discussion of mutual interests pertaining to the proposed changes in the tariff law. This joint meeting was set for Wednesday, December 13, 1865, and the day previous the wool growers perfected their organization.

The purpose of the organization

was set forth in the opening paragraph of the Articles of Association, which reads:

In order to secure for the business of wool growing equal encouragement and protection with other great industrial interests of our country, we do hereby organize a society to be known as the National Wool Growers Association.

In these earlier years most of the sheep population was in the Eastern States and California. From 1880 to 1890 thousands of sheep were trailed from California to the intermountain country where feed and water were plentiful without government restriction. By 1900 the sheep population had increased in the West to such an extent that it was agreed to hold the National Convention in the West in 1901 for the first time and Salt Lake City was selected as the place. It was at this convention that Senator Francis E. Warren of Wyoming was elected President, being the first president from the West. During the 71 years we have had only nine presidents, four being from the East and five from the West. Their names and time of service are as follows:

- Dr. Henry S. Randall, New York—1865 to 1877.
- A. M. Garland, Illinois—1877 to 1883.
- Columbus Delano, Ohio, 1883 to 1893.
- Judge William Lawrence, Ohio—1893 to 1901.
- Senator F. E. Warren, Wyoming, 1901 to 1906.
- F. W. Gooding, Idaho—1908 to 1911.
- F. R. Gooding, Idaho, (United States Senator)—1911 to 1913.
- F. J. Hagenbarth, Idaho—1913 to 1934.

In all these years the most important national problem before the wool growers was the tariff. They realized then as now that protection for the industry in every way could only be secured by a national organization. During all these years

a constant fight has been made in behalf of the wool growers. Sometimes it was a question of any tariff at all, and at other times it was for an equitable tariff. For many years we had a tariff of 11 cents per pound on grease wool which looked to growers to be fair and equitable. Finally we discovered that, owing to the difference in wool shrinkage, our actual protection was only about half as much as we thought it was. Only after many years of educational work and hard fighting by the officers and members of the National Wool Growers Association did we finally secure a tariff on wool based on the scoured content which is fair and equitable to grower, manufacturer, and consumer.

At the present time we are living in constant fear that agriculture may suffer tariff reductions through reciprocal trade agreements. It was my intention to talk in detail on the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty but as our National Secretary, Mr. Marshall, has written such a wonderful article on this subject which was published in the December issue of the National Wool Grower, I will not mention any of the details. These trade agreements fostered by the Secretary of State and seemingly okehed by the Secretary of Agriculture certainly are not in accordance with the pre-election platform and policies of President Roosevelt.

In October, 1932, I read a telegram to California wool growers which was signed by President Roosevelt and which stated about the same as quoted in the press from his Baltimore speech in October, 1932, as follows: "I know of no effective excessively high duties on farm products. I do not intend that such duties shall be lowered. To do so would be inconsistent with my entire farm program." To me "inconsistent" is the proper word; to limit the production of farm products in this country and at the same time to lower the tariff so more of these products would be imported is certainly "inconsistent." Any re-

ciprocal trade agreement is simply the twilight zone between protection and free trade. It does not make a lot of difference if I leave my front door open so a burglar can walk in or if I lower the transom so he can climb over.

Three years ago we had reason to believe that both the old political parties were pledged to a policy of tariff protection, but now selfish manufacturers are urging the administration, and with considerable success, to reduce the tariff on agricultural products by reciprocal trade agreements, believing this will increase the foreign demand for their products. These men with their short-sighted, selfish policy in mind forget that every time \$1 worth of anything that we produce is imported it displaces nearly \$2 worth of material and labor in this country. This in return reduces the buying power here which we are trying so hard to restore.

The first nine months of 1935, according to Department of Commerce figures, show importation of farm products in the United States as follows:

Meat products .....	86,900,000 lbs.
Beef and veal .....	7,681,000 "
Ham and bacon .....	2,846,000 "
Canned meats .....	57,533,000 "
Lard .....	13,506,000 "
Condensed milk .....	477,000 "
Butter .....	21,998,000 "
Corn .....	34,809,000 bu.
Oats .....	10,092,000 "
Wheat .....	13,446,000 "
Wheat Flour .....	1,277,000 "
Raw cotton .....	36,353,000 lbs.

These importations may have enabled our automobile manufacturers to sell a few more cars in foreign countries but at the same time they no doubt lost the sale of twice as many cars at home. Free traders tell us that foreign countries quit buying from us because we have the tariff too high. This is not the reason at all. They quit buying from us because we quit lending them the money and because we stopped wholesale immigration. We limited immigration in order to take care of those that were already here.

For the same reason we should limit importation of those products which we can produce at home.

Some of us might have the thought in mind that so long as the product that we produce is not injured by tariff reduction why should we worry. First we should have in mind at all times the general welfare of the country and secondly that any importation hurts, if not directly it does indirectly. I will give you just one illustration: The man producing maple sugar in Vermont is hurt in the Canadian treaty by the tariff reduction on his products and in return his buying power for wool, meat, clothing and everything else is reduced to almost nothing. The tariff situation is summed up best by Samuel Crowther wherein he states, "America for Americans."

#### *Argentina Convention*

The Sanitary Convention between the United States and Argentina, signed May 31, 1935, has all the objectionable features outlined above and in addition thereto we have not only the possibility but the probability of importing that most dreadful foot-and-mouth disease with all its millions of dollars in losses to individuals, the states and the federal government.

#### *Associated Wool Industries*

Most of you are familiar with the Associated Wool Industries and you will have an opportunity to know more about it during this convention.

I simply wish to call your attention to the importance of this work. You well know the great benefit that has come to the livestock industry from the good work done by the Livestock and Meat Board in advertising meat. As individuals it has cost us very little money and I believe it is safe to state that our returns have been close to one hundred per cent on our investment. I firmly believe the Associated Wool Industries will render service to our industry equally as valuable.

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## The Conference of Taylor Act Officials

**A**NOTHER chapter in the affairs of the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 was written on January 13 and 14, when a conference of grazing district advisors was held at Salt Lake City.

A detailed and logically arranged program had been prepared by Director of Grazing, F. R. Carpenter, who presided over the four sessions, but some of the topics scheduled for discussion and decision overran the allotted time and others had not been reached when adjournment was taken.

Honorable T. A. Walters, First Assistant Secretary of the Interior, who has been designated as official supervisor over the Division of Grazing, delivered a very comprehensive and carefully prepared address at the opening of the conference and remained on the platform throughout the sessions. Honorable Julian Terrett of Montana, who has been appointed under Civil Service as Assistant Director of Grazing, also attended the conference.

While 600 persons were in attendance, voting was permitted only to 136 delegates who had been chosen by the 36 district grazing boards now in existence. At the closing session Mr. Carpenter indicated that participation in discussions was open only to the 136 official delegates. The expenses of these delegates in attending the conference were to be paid by the Department of the Interior, but it was not announced whether they would receive an additional per diem allowance for their services. At one point, when feeling seemed to be running rather high upon the question of charges to be paid by stockmen for the grazing, Mr. Carpenter admonished the delegates that they were to vote, not as representatives of the livestock industry, but as officials of the Department of the Interior. That statement may fairly be taken as the key

to the tenor of the conference. Impartial observation compelled the conclusion that it had previously been determined just what action it was desired to have the conference take on the questions submitted. While there was some chafing and some partially concealed objection to such dictation, a comfortable majority were acquiescent and the results must have been highly satisfactory from the official point of view.

At the close of the general sessions on Monday, the delegates for each of the ten states participating in the conference met to formulate replies to questions presented in the agenda submitted to the gathering.

The reports of the states as presented on Tuesday morning showed considerable conflict of opinions on some points. After lengthy discussion and pointed suggestions and admonitions from the chairman, the outcome of the conference was officially shown to have consisted of answers to the following questions:

**Question.** Should temporary allocations of land be incorporated in all 1936 licenses?

**Answer.** Temporarily range allotments may be made in all 1936 licenses to qualified applicants, provided necessary information is available for such action and subject to the discretion of the advisory boards.

**Question.** Should commensurate property be divided into classes and definitely defined?

**Answer.** Further and more definite definitions of commensurate property should be made.

**Question.** Should dependent properties be classified?

**Answer.** Dependent properties should be separated into those within or near a district, and those not so near a district, with first preference to be given the owner of land and livestock whose ownership depends on the use of public lands adjacent

to his property and who has had sufficient prior use.

**Question.** What should be the order of preferences to applicants for grazing?

**Answer.** First, qualified applicants with dependent, commensurate property with prior use. Second, qualified applicants who have prior use but not adequate commensurate property. Third, qualified applicants with dependent commensurate property but without prior use.

**Question.** Should a fee be paid for temporary licenses, and if so, how much?

**Answer.** Five cents per head per month for cattle and horses, and one cent for sheep and goats should be paid for 1936 licenses.

### Fees For Public Domain Grazing

**W**HEN the majority of the one hundred and thirty-six delegates at the Salt Lake conference voted to pay five cents per month for cattle and one cent for sheep grazed under Taylor Act permits, they may not have realized the full import of their commitments of the livestock industry in the ten states represented in the conference.

The official record of the conference cannot show just how many votes were cast for the scale of charges reported as having been approved, as there was no roll call on the final vote. On an earlier viva voce vote, the majority appeared to be unfavorable to the proposal, but no announcement of that vote was made by the chairman and there was considerable discussion before the next call for expression of opinion. Judging by sound, this final vote seemed to be in favor of the fees, but there was no roll call, as on other matters, and there is no record of what states, or how many delegates, wished to start paying fees under temporary licenses in 1936.

It must be admitted, however, that many of the official voting delegates, as well as others present, cheer-



fully volunteered to recompense the government for its cost of administration of the Taylor Grazing Act. There was, and could be, no understanding of what that expense will be. All depends upon the number of employees future government officials may elect to assign to affairs of grazing on government lands, what they shall be paid, and what other expenses shall be charged to the Division of Grazing.

An example of such possibilities is to be found in the record of the cost of administering the grazing resources of the national forests. In 1925, the figure was \$535,944, and in 1931, \$1,016,234. But the Forest Service has over 100 million acres of land used for grazing within 165 million acres of forest lands, while the Division of Grazing is only a yearling and has less than 80 million acres under regulation.

Nor is it clear to the writer just why stockmen should be expected or required to assume the cost of a new function which the government chooses to exercise in respect to its own property. If, or when, the administration of the Taylor Act shows benefits to successful applicants for grazing, then and only then, can any charge be justified.

In the reports of states at the Salt Lake conference, California, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming objected to collection of fees under licenses but indicated willingness to pay something under term permits. Perhaps none of the delegates from these states were coerced, but on the record they were outvoted.

The cost of administration of the Taylor Act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, was shown by the official program of the conference as \$412,000. Under the law, one fourth of collections from grazing go into the United States Treasury. Consequently, to offset the government's net expense, a total of \$1,648,000 must be collected annually, and larger sums in proportion to increases in expenditures for administration. With, say 100 million acres

under regulation by the Division of Grazing of the Department of the Interior in 1940, it is modestly reasonable to expect an administration cost of one million dollars in that year, which would mean that four million dollars must be collected to reimburse the Federal Treasury for its outlay.

There is no argument at all as to the value of the forage on an average national forest grazing acre and that on an average acre of the public domain. The latter has less than one-third the value of the former, and yet under the existing plan of basing fees on commercial value, the income from grazing on approximately 100

million acres of forest land averaged \$1,359,730 over the past five years.

The fees voted at Salt Lake are estimated to produce around \$600,000 in the year 1936-37. In line with the foregoing anticipation of financial developments under the Taylor law it is pertinent and interesting to observe that on January 27, in testifying before the House Appropriations Committee, Director Carpenter said that he anticipated an income from grazing in the amount of \$1,000,000 during the year 1936-37.

All of which gives material for rumination now and perhaps a potent basis for discussions in future Taylor Act conferences.

F. R. M.

## The General Wild Life Federation

A NATIONAL organization of persons interested in the restoration and conservation of wild life was the principal outcome of the International Wildlife Conference held at Washington, D. C., during the first week of February. The attendance was reported at 1500.

Westerners who attended the conference expressed satisfaction with its temperate aspect and the absence of reckless charges against livestock which have commonly characterized the writings of some of those who have posed as zealous defenders of the devotees of hunting and shooting at public expense.

The conference had as its chairman, Mr. F. A. Silcox, chief of the U. S. Forest Service. The new chief of the Biological Survey, Mr. I. N. Gabrielson, and his staff also were prominent in the sessions and committee activities.

Stockmen will have an opportunity to attend state meetings which will be called to ratify the constitution of the new federation. Approval already has been given by the Washington conference which apparently was recognized during its progress as the General Wildlife Federation.

The articles of the proposed constitution show as the principal ob-

jective, the organization of "all agencies, societies, clubs and individuals which are or should be interested in the restoration and conservation of wild life into a permanent, unified agency for the purpose of securing adequate public recognition of the needs and values of wild life resources."

The federation is to be made up of one representative from each state and representatives of existing national societies recognized by the board of directors. The state representatives are to be elected under the constitution and by-laws of the state federation. Voting in the annual conference is to be by states, with one vote for each state.

The United States is divided into 13 regions, each of which is to have a representative on the board of directors of the General Federation.

Regions in the West are as follows:

No. 10. Colorado, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico.

No. 11. Washington, Oregon and Alaska.

No. 12. California and Nevada.

No. 13. Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

The headquarters are to be in Washington, D. C.

## SHEEP AWARDS AT THE OGDEN LIVESTOCK SHOW

January 10 - 16, 1936

Judge: H. W. Brettell, Laramie, Wyoming

BREEDS	Aged Ram	Yearling Ram	Ram Lamb	Aged Ewe	Yearling Ewe	Ewe Lamb	Pen of 4 Bred by Exhibitor	Pen of 4 Get of One Sire	Flock
<b>RAMBOUILLETS:</b>									
W. D. Candland.....	4	3 & 5	5	2	1 & 5	5	3		3
M. J. Eddy.....		7							
E. S. Hansen.....			6				4		
W. S. Hansen.....	3	1 & 6		*1 & 5	4 & 6	4			4
J. K. Madsen.....	*1 & 5	2	3 & 4	3	2	1 & 2	2 & 5		1
Utah State Agrl. College.	2	4	1 & 2	4 & 6	3	3	1	1	2
<b>HAMPSHIRE:</b>									
Fred H. Cornaby.....		3		4					
Crandells.....				2	4				
Matthews Brothers.....		2	1 & 3	*1 & 3	2 & 3	1 & 2	2	2	1
D. H. Matthews.....						4			
Utah State Agrl. College.		*1	2, 4 & 5	5	1 & 5	3 & 5	1 & 3	1 & 3	2

\*Champion

The champion Rambouillet ram shown by J. K. Madsen was the four-year-old Duke, whose photograph appeared on page 15 of the November Wool Grower.

A photograph of W. S. Hansen's champion ewe appeared on page 19 of the December Wool Grower.

Lincolns were exhibited by Leo and Mark Hansen of Spanish Fork, Utah, and Crandells of Cass City, Michigan. Crandells had champion ram and champion ewe, first on aged ram and first on ram lamb. They also had first on yearling ewe and first on ewe lamb, and showed first in both pens and in flock. Hansens showed first in yearling ram and first in aged ewe.

The Suffolk exhibitors were S. P. Nielson and Earl Nielson of Nephi and George B. Mann of Woods Cross, Utah. Mann had champion ewe and first in the two-year-old and yearling sections. S. P. Nielson had champion ram and first on a pen of three ram lambs and pen of four lambs of either sex bred by exhibitor, pen of four lambs get of one sire, and on flock.

Cotswolds were exhibited by A. F. and Winslow F. Rhoades of Hanna, Utah, and Crandells of Cass City, Michigan. Champion ram and champion ewe were shown by Rhoades, also first in aged ram, first in aged ewe, and first in yearling ewe. They also received first on flock. Crandells were given first on yearling ram, first on ram lamb, first on year-

ling ewe, and first on both pens, one bred by exhibitor and the other get of one sire.

The University of Idaho exhibited the grand champion carload of 25 fat lambs and Howard Vaughn of Dixon, California, received first prize on his carload of 25 fat range lambs.

### Awards for Breeding Sheep at the National Western Stock Show

Denver, Colo., January 18-25, 1936

**HAMPSHIRE**s were shown by the following breeders: Frank H. Means, Saguache, Colorado; J. B. Sweatt, Greeley, Colorado; and the University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming. Mr. Means received firsts for aged ram, yearling ram, pen of three ram lambs, aged ewe, yearling ewe, and flock. The University of Wyoming was given first for ram lamb, first and second for ewe lamb, and first for their pen of three ewe lambs.

King Brothers Company and the University of Wyoming, both of Laramie, Wyoming, were the exhibitors of Rambouillets. King Brothers had champion ram and reserve champion ewe; also, first on get of sire, first on aged ram, first on ram lamb, first on pen of three ram lambs, first on aged ewe, first on ewe lamb, and first on flock. Champion ewe and reserve champion ram were

shown by the University of Wyoming. They also received firsts on yearling ram, yearling ewe, and pen of three ewe lambs.

The University of Wyoming and King Brothers also were the exhibitors of Corriedales. The University of Wyoming came first on ram lamb, first on ewe lamb, first on pen of three ewe lambs, and first for get of sire. The reserve champion ram and reserve champion ewe were also shown by the University.

Champion ram and champion ewe awards were won by King Brothers. They also were first with aged ram, first with yearling ram, first with aged ewe and pen of three ram lambs, and first with yearling ewe. First award for flocks was also won by King Brothers.

E. F. Rinehart, Boise, Idaho, was the judge of all breeding sheep.

### Lambs on Feed January 1, 1936

**T**HE number of lambs (including sheep) on feed for market on January 1, 1936, in the principal feeding states was 5.4 per cent smaller than the number on January 1, 1935, according to the estimate of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The estimated number this year was 5,260,000 head. The estimate for January 1, 1935, revised, was 5,561,000 head and for January 1, 1934, was 5,214,000 head. The estimated number on January 1, 1932, of 6,160,000 head was the largest on record. The revised estimate for January 1, 1935, is materially larger than the preliminary estimate issued in January of last year. The increases from the preliminary estimate were mostly in the corn belt states, especially Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, and Kansas. The movement of feeder lambs direct into these states in the fall of 1934 for feeding in cornfield or wheat pastures was much larger than information available a year ago indicated.

# The Livestock Industry and National Forest Grazing

*Address by F. A. Silcox, Chief, U. S. Forest Service,  
Before the Seventy-First Annual Convention  
Of the National Wool Growers Association*

**M**R. Chairman and members of the National Wool Growers Association: I hate to be instrumental in interrupting your rather vital discussion. I am particularly interested to be here at this meeting. I have just been down to meet the American Live Stock Association in Phoenix, Arizona. We are closely interrelated with this program that you have been discussing. There are about 132,000,000 acres in the west part of the United States and of that total acreage, there is about 80,000,000 acres that is summer range and the other part is forest or high mountains. We started to attempt to work out a plan of grazing on those ranges with the old tacit agreement that existed here up to that time.

In the Fifteenth Chapter of Genesis there is a story in regard to Abraham and Lot coming out of Egypt and they got into somewhat of a scrap among themselves and as they approached the fertile valley of Jordan, Lot said to Abraham, "You take this one side and I will take the other side." And Lot went up on a hill and said, "I will take this one." I often wonder what would have happened if Abraham had objected. They would have had to make a tacit agreement.

We have had to make a tacit agreement in the western country. For a long time there was sufficient range and we started out on the basis of a per capita plan. In Texas these areas were leased on an acre basis rather than on a per capita basis. As stated here today, we took

things pretty much as we found them and attempted to work our way through it. We have attempted to administer these ranges for thirty years and I am fast coming to the conclusion that we should soon be in the position to guarantee to the industry some degree of stability.

I know what is uppermost in your minds. You have the question first of the term permit and interlocked with it is the question of finances, and I think that one of the primary things which we need in the West is public money on long loans holding a low interest rate and I don't see how you could get those unless we get in the grazing plan. Then you don't know how these ranges will be chopped up. I am inclined to believe that with an analysis of the ranges you are fast coming to the point where you can't continue cutting up ranges and you have to have some degree of stability to keep from shaking it down at too frequent intervals.

The third thing is the matter of reducing on the ranges. As to reduction for protection I find no great disagreement. As to production for distribution I find the matter at high tension and I again state in connection with the distribution of these ranges that we can narrow this thing down and get down to cases in a number of these regions where we can deal with them rather as special cases than general cases. A certain evil has grown out of the matter of permitting unlimited access to limited ranges. If you hold out the promise to a lot of people of access to the ranges, then as soon



CHIEF FORESTER SILCOX

as you are crowded you will have to reduce somewhere.

I am inclined to believe that you can take some of these areas like the much-disputed Snake River Area and work out the best possible economic set-up. I am not making a final judgment on that, but it seems to be that we can think of the total contribution to the community. There is the problem of the continued use of the lower lands and the continued use of the range. If it is found that these lower ranchers meet their obligations and pay their taxes for the upkeep of your schools and roads, then the sound thing, it would seem to me, would be to make some provision. But I am not prepared to make a final judgment on that particular situation; but if any adjustments have to be made they could be made on a fairly long-time period in order to avoid the uncertainty that comes about by constant adjustment on the ranges.

I lived in the western country from 1905 to 1917 and I traveled over it on snow-shoes before you had so many Chevrolets. I was in Colorado in 1905 and I was in Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, Montana and Arizona and all up and down this backbone of the Rockies.



The only purpose of the National Forest Service as I see it with relation to the national set-up is with regard to timber on the ranges. Our timber resources have been badly devastated in places. Communities have had booms after which the county authorities have had to try to find ways and means to take care of their social agencies. In West Virginia with the finest spruce and with fine mills 50 per cent of the people are on relief and they just wait for timber to grow. I can take you into the Lake States which at one time stood on the top rung, where now 80 per cent of the people are out of work.

From my standpoint in Washington I must recognize that we have a simple problem. In all fairness to Mr. Carpenter, our land is not clearly delineated by topographical boundaries and when you get on the widest stretches of the public domain there is a much more complicated proposition in that situation than there is in the summer ranges on the national forest.

I have been appointed for some unknown reason as chairman of a group which is to meet in Washington from February 3 to 7. I am hoping from that we can get a fair balance and yet keep from infringing on the ranges needed for the communities' upkeep in this western country, and I think it can be done. I hope that out of this meeting we can come to some agreement.

I want to make one more statement in regard to the set-up in relation to you people who have used those ranges. I have been out of the Forest Service for a good many years in private business, up against the ruthless New York market and I have some appreciation of what you have been through the last four or five years. There have been created a good many federal agencies. I was very much interested in coming in and listening to the number of agencies which you as members of the Association have to contact in the handling of this area by govern-

mental bureaucracies, if you please, because you have to submit to an agency who takes over and handles these problems.

Some of the worst bureaucracies I have found in the country are in private business because in public business you can put me or someone else on the carpet but not the president of a private corporation. To avoid that it seems to me that first of all we need a highly decentralized type of organization, and the plan of organization makes it so highly decentralized that the organization can be made sensitive enough to meet local requirements. And I would join you as citizens of the United States in a fight against that type of organization that becomes case-hardened and arrogant.

We have here in the West something like 700 local stock associations with which we deal. They are scattered around and tied in with your state and national organizations. We assume that they are representative of the people in that locality. In my experience with one of the largest industries in New York City I raised the question as to the so-called self-government which sets up procedure where one group of competitors controls another group. Some of the fallacy of the N. R. A. was just exactly that.

I don't want to state specifically here how long permits will be granted. I am arranging for a meeting in Washington about February 15. There have been a number of requests from House and Senate groups and by groups from the West who have asked to be heard before a policy is announced, and I am hopeful that by February 15 we may be able to announce the policy, but some term permits will be issued in the national forests.

We are going first to proceed with the idea of stability. I have taken up the question of credits which is vital out here and I have suggested that the ranches be pooled as a general security for these loans. I mean by that we would give to the loaning

agencies a policy statement which would include, first, the matter of term permits; second, limitation of reduction on a reserve to be made for protection which we hope will solve to a large extent the distribution problem by taking it up district by district to see how much adjustment is needed and, third, to have that put into a form of a statement to the farm credit agencies giving them the assurance of no changes in the fundamental policy announced. I think that we could follow the same principle as insurance companies by pooling that risk, and by having the assurance that the loans on the ranch properties with grazing privileges in the national forests would thus be secured with the safest type of securities they could have.

I am particularly glad to have been here. I hope that I have covered some of the points that have been uppermost in your minds and frankly we want to fix them, and we hope to lay the foundation for a sounder system of finance.

Then we can determine whether you have a one, two, three, five or ten-year permit which makes a considerable difference in the approach to the bank or loaning agency where you get your loan. That is a matter of practical banking judgment that cannot be avoided.

If the occasion should arise whereby a reservoir or some other use of the nationally owned land should come about, that means an adjustment possibly, but a small adjustment. The particular individual affected by that could be taken care of out of the pool so that the loan extended to him would not be placed in jeopardy and I think we could do that by pooling a risk over the whole area and I know by talking to a lot of you men that you are willing to go along with us.

There is considerable doubt and considerable controversy going on as to the capacity of the ranges. I am frank to admit that I don't know about it. I have asked some of our men if they could find me a scale

stick such as we use in measuring logs or timber. The thing I want to safeguard you against is having arbitrary action taken that reaches down into the vital organization set-up and I want to give you some degree of stability and assurance as to the use of these ranges. I again say before I leave the microphone that I think that after thirty years' experience we should be able to arrive somewhere near that point and that these adjustments that we have had to make in the taking over of these ranges we can say are like

peas in a pop-gun, if you put one in you push somebody out.

Again I want to express my appreciation for the opportunity of being here and express myself on this particular problem in which I know you are all interested and I leave you with the statement that we will get out a policy that will be evolved somewhere along the lines I have mentioned after meeting with your committee and members of the committee of the American Livestock Association.

## Bighead and Sheep Trails

*Paper Delivered Before the Seventy-First Annual Convention of the National Association by Dr. W. T. Huffman, U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, Salt Lake City, Associated with Dr. A. B. Clawson in Bighead Investigation and Experiments*

THE theory has been advanced that two species of a rather common range plant are the principal cause of range bighead of sheep. A survey of many of the bighead areas in seven states has demonstrated a definite relationship between outbreaks of the disease and the distribution of these plants, and feeding tests made with the plants have substantiated that theory.

If any real progress is to be made in this investigation, and beneficial results obtained, it will be necessary to have the cooperation of the sheepmen in the affected areas, who are the ones most vitally interested in the outcome. Even though you may not entirely agree with the present theory regarding the cause of bighead, we consider the evidence as it stands today sufficiently conclusive to justify a friendly cooperation in order that a practical application may be made of the information so far gathered.

While the plants are undoubtedly the direct cause of bighead, there are many factors that enter into the production of the disease. We have

seen herds grazing quietly in areas where these plants are abundant without suffering any ill effects, while a herd being trailed through the same area may develop bighead. There are probably several reasons for this apparent inconsistency, the principal one being that sheep will not ordinarily eat these plants in sufficient quantities to cause trouble when there is a variety of palatable forage available, unless the animals are exceptionally hungry.

The popular belief in many districts that bighead is most apt to occur after a storm, and especially after a snowstorm, can be explained by the generally accepted opinion that moisture on the vegetation, either in the form of rain or snow, changes the feeding habits of the sheep and induces them to eat plants not ordinarily taken. The fact that sheep do not feed normally when they are very dry is responsible for their being extra hungry when they come off of water, and in such a condition they will eat most anything available. This probably accounts for the large number of outbreaks that occur soon after the bands have been watered.

Bighead may develop on an overgrazed range where palatable feed is scarce or absent, or on a range where there is a limited variety of feed, such as a grass range, provided the suspected plants are present. There is a possibility that the character of the forage the animals were on previously may have something to do with the occurrence of bighead. In any case there is usually a combination of circumstances that interfere with the orderly routine of the daily grazing habits of the sheep.

While bighead may develop under a variety of conditions, it is principally a trail disease. It may occur on short trails to and from water or around shearing corrals, but the heaviest losses are usually encountered on the trails from the winter to the spring and summer ranges, and it is on these trails and appertinent watering places that the greatest opportunity exists for preventing outbreaks of the disease.

The very obvious and distinct relationship that exists between bighead areas and the distribution of the two species of *tetradymia*, together with the results of the feeding tests that have been made with these plants, should be sufficient evidence to justify a rather close study, on the part of the sheepmen themselves, of the ranges and trails over which their herds travel, in order to familiarize themselves with the distribution of the plants and be in a position during the dangerous period to prevent as much of the bighead loss as possible. Even if the plants are not the cause of bighead they are known to be poisonous and for that reason alone sheep should not be forced to eat them.

In formulating plans for prevention it may be found necessary to change some of the trails and watering places, or supply additional feed at certain times. It may also be found advisable to remove the plants from certain restricted areas around watering places, or fence off some of the worst patches, where such a procedure would render safe a rather large area of range or trail.

The wide variation of conditions in the different localities under which bighead may develop, and the course of the outbreaks as well as the ultimate losses, are governed, to a large extent, by the species of plant involved. Under such circumstances no set of rules can be formulated that would apply to all sections. The same principle, however, applies in all cases; viz., keeping sheep away from dangerous areas when they are very hungry, or when palatable feed is scarce.

The present system of range control affords an excellent opportunity, not only for range rehabilitation, but for devising ways and means whereby the losses from bighead, as well as those from other causes, may be materially reduced. In the past there has probably been too much hesitancy on the part of the sheepmen in reporting losses and seeking information that might enable them to avoid further trouble. A closer cooperation between the sheepmen, the parties responsible for the administration of the public ranges and the agencies interested in poisonous plant and disease control work, should result in a reduction of the excessive losses that have been going on for many years.

We have nothing to offer on the subject of treatment. Our efforts have been directed toward a study of the cause of bighead and, incidentally, to the possibilities of prevention. It is only through prevention that any progress can be made in the control of the disease. The outcome in each bighead case probably depends largely on the amount of poison that has been consumed.

## Weaving an Old Art

NO one knows just when man first learned to spin and weave wool into fabrics. Fabrics of wool have been unearthed in the ruins of villages inhabited by the Swiss Lake dwellers ten thousand years ago, and wool garments, woven with the highest skill, were worn by the Babylonians as early as 4000 B. C.

## The Farm Bureau Platform

VOTING delegates who represented farmers of 1800 counties framed the 1936 platform of the American Farm Bureau Federation in twenty resolutions which were adopted at the 17th annual convention held in Chicago in December.

The Farm Bureau officials, led by President O'Neal of Alabama, have continuously worked very closely with President Roosevelt and Secretary Wallace on the administration plan of agricultural adjustment. In reaffirming its position on this program, the Bureau also demanded the continuation of the processing tax as a tariff for agriculture and endorsed the plan of single contracts to cover all crops on each farm. Other interesting planks of the platform were:

Call for "amendment of the Farm Credit laws so that a majority of the directors of Farm Credit institutions, owned by farmer-borrowers, may be elected by such borrowers."

Recommendation "that the fiscal policy of our government be so modified that its revenues shall be increased and its expenditures decreased, to the end that, within the next few years, a balance shall be attained."

A request that books and records of packers and processors be made available to the Secretary of Agriculture for determining the effects of the several types of marketing methods now in existence upon the producers of livestock.

It also was asked that meats moving in interstate commerce be so labeled by the Department of Agriculture as to permit the consumer to identify the various grades and qualities. Also, that imported meats and other foods should be labeled to inform purchasers as to their origin.

On the subject of reciprocal trade agreements, the platform said:

We reaffirm our position of last year on reciprocal trade agreements as follows:

Historically the U. S. is an agricultural exporting nation. The prosperity of the producers of basic farm products has during most of our history been dependent on profitable foreign markets for our surplus production. Our policy of high industrial tariffs coupled with our change in status from a debtor to a creditor nation has made it impossible for foreign countries to sell

enough industrial goods and services to enable them to buy our agricultural products in normal volume. We are in accord with the purpose of reciprocal trade treaties which is, primarily, to restore agricultural exports by judicious lowering of industrial tariffs, thus admitting more goods into this country and making it possible for us to sell more of our farm products abroad. We insist that this purpose be adhered to in framing reciprocal trade treaties and that there be no reduction in present agricultural tariffs on any farm product that would have the effect of holding or reducing domestic price levels below parity on such products.

The Argentine Sanitary Convention was opposed.

The final resolution was presented as an "omnibus" group of nineteen paragraphs, one of which said:

We favor increasing the acreage for inclusion in grazing areas in the Taylor Grazing Act, to the end that the public lands may be conserved by reducing the number of head of livestock that may be grazed thereon.

## Wool Prices and Trade "Pick Up"

THE upward trend in wool prices in domestic markets was stimulated by an unexpected pickup in trade late in December, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in a report on world wool prospects. Buying declined somewhat during the first half of January, but wool prices continued to advance.

"Domestic prices are likely to continue near the present level during the early months of 1936 at least, in view of the improved demand and firm prices in foreign markets and the necessity for increased imports by the United States," says the report. The available supply of domestic wool in the Boston market is small.

United States consumption of apparel class wool on a scoured basis in the first eleven months of 1935 was 276,163,000 pounds compared with 145,400,000 pounds in the same months of 1934. Unfilled orders are reported as "large," with machinery activity expected to continue high through the early months of this year.



# Land Use Planning and The Sheep Industry

*Address by E. L. Potter, Oregon State Agricultural College, Before  
the Seventy-First Annual Convention of the National  
Wool Growers Association*

THE sheepmen of the West have from the start taken the position that they were not interested in crop control or any other phases of planned agriculture. They have been emphatic that they did not wish sheep to be listed as a basic commodity under the Triple A act. In spite of this stand, however, our sheepmen are being drawn into the planning program. The planning that is being done by other people and in other territory may and does vitally affect the sheepmen of the West.

When the production control program of the Triple A started, the acreage taken out of basic crops such as corn and wheat was rigorously guarded to prevent it from being used to increase competition in other commodities. This restriction of the contracted acreage broke down during the drought of 1934 when, for obvious reasons, practically all restrictions on controlled acreage were removed. Since then the farmers in the corn belt have been planning to raise less corn and more grass and hay and more livestock and perhaps in the long run produce just as much corn on the smaller acreage. This doctrine has been prevalent in the corn belt for the last generation. It was being taught by the agricultural colleges twenty-five years ago. Such corn belt periodicals as Wallace's Farmer were advocating it even back in the days of "Uncle Henry" Wallace, the grandfather of the present Secretary. The same idea has been prevalent in the western regions of Minnesota and the Dakotas. Last summer a study was made by the Triple A of the adjustments which

should be made in the agriculture of the various states with a view to proper maintenance of soil fertility, prevention of erosion, and good farm management practice. When the reports from the forty-eight individual states were totaled up it was shown that the plan contemplated a slight reduction in the acreage of feed grains but an increase in yield per acre which brought the total production up to the old figure. But in the meantime the production of hay would be increased by forty per cent. The new corn-hog contracts that were proposed by the Triple A a month ago encouraged more grass and hay in place of corn.

## *Increased Competition*

All of this, of course, means increased competition to the western stockmen, whose chief resource is grass and hay. Just what will happen now that the Triple A has been declared unconstitutional we cannot say. The movement to shift a considerable acreage in the corn belt and in the wheat belt in Minnesota and the Dakotas toward grass and hay and livestock has in any case achieved considerable momentum. The indications are that this idea will be pushed even harder without the A.A.A. There have been a number of people in Washington all along who think that the production of basic crops as wheat, corn and cotton can be controlled by the indirect method of increasing grass and hay. A month before the death of the A.A.A. Wallace's Farmer was advocating that benefit payments be made for increasing grass and hay rather than for decreasing corn.

Most of the new ideas pushed forward since the death of the A.A.A. are based on this idea. Much is being said about soil conservation and erosion prevention but these in the general farming regions are but nine dollar words for more grass and hay. It is my judgment, therefore, that this movement toward grass and hay will not be retarded by the death of the A.A.A. but that it will actually be the basis of the substitute plans.

This movement toward more grass and hay in the central states will affect the West in two ways. First is the obvious increase in competition. Second is the pressure which will be placed on the federal government by corn belt farmers demanding that grazing on government-owned lands in the western states be reduced. This idea may be camouflaged as protection of the grass against overgrazing or as protection of the timber or soil conservation or what not. Its real motive, however, will be to reduce the competition of western producers as against the central states.

## *Planned Reduction in West*

This idea, however, will not depend one hundred per cent for support on farmers of the corn, wheat and cotton belts. There are, in fact, several weaknesses in our western position which should be considered carefully and strengthened wherever possible. In the first place, as most of you know, the law setting aside the national forests as such makes no mention of grazing. The Forest Service is authorized to protect the timber. If the Forest Service prohibited all grazing on the national forest it would be within its

legal rights, no matter how unwise that policy might be from other standpoints. There is also a good deal of unfortunate professional jealousy within the Forest Service, between those who consider themselves as real foresters and who deal solely with timber and, on the other hand, those in the Forest Service who have been assigned to grazing and who are, therefore, considered as outlaws by the professional foresters. Then again there remain a few smoldering embers of the old fight between the stockmen and the Forest Service in regard to the fees, particularly the famous, or infamous, Rachford report. That contest, as you may remember, was settled right in this room just thirteen years ago. The settlement of that contest was something of a compromise, but things were said and done at that time which are hard to forget.

A moment ago I mentioned a study made by the Triple A in co-operation with the various states in an effort to work out an all-round agricultural program. A meeting of the workers on this program from the eleven western states was held in Logan last August. While that meeting was to consider the reports of the various studies that had been made in the eleven states, Forest Service officials apparently chose to ignore the results of those studies and to notify us definitely that grazing on the national forests was to be reduced. There were no "ifs" and "ands" about it. The program was one of reduction and reduction only. It was evident at that time that there was a determined effort on the part of certain forest officials to reduce grazing without regard to carrying capacity. About that time there was proposed by the Forest Service a survey which was intended to get together the data which would be necessary in order to determine the proper policy which the Forest Service should follow in the allotment of permits.

This study involves, of course, the question of how the national forest lands could be best matched up with the other lands in the community in order to give the best land use.

It also involves the question of the proper size of the livestock unit from a standpoint of efficiency of operation, support of a family, and so forth. In other words, it opens up the whole question of who should have these permits and of whether there should or should not be a considerable degree of redistribution of grazing rights. A study of this nature was to be conducted in each of the national forest districts. The plan was to pick out within each district one typical county in which all types of agriculture were represented—the small irrigated farmer, grain farmer and stockman; also all types of land—hay land, grain land, spring and fall range, and summer range. The state agricultural experiment station in which the sample county was located was to assist in the work. The plan was to complete this work by January, that is, right now, and to make whatever adjustments might be desired in the whole national forest grazing situation for the grazing season of 1936. The time allotted for the study was absurdly short. It was just not possible to do the job within the time set. Furthermore, we had already been notified by Mr. Rachford at Logan that cuts would actually be made. With all of this in mind I was personally inclined to consider this so-called study as a mere smoke screen to cover up the policy which had already been announced. Since that time, however, there seems to be some change in the situation. The date for the completion of the study has been postponed from January to October. This makes it possible to conduct the study in a really serious and careful manner. It also, of course, means that the readjustments proposed must be postponed for a year. Various rumors have reached us which indicate that the Forest Service is not so sure of its reduction program as it was last summer. In fact there may be no general reduction.

#### *Departmental Rivalry*

In the meantime the grazing districts under the Taylor Act are being

formed and many new policies for the control of federally owned grazing lands are being developed. These policies have been subject to much debate but, good or bad, they have one outstanding characteristic and that is that they consider only grazing and livestock whereas our grazing policies on the national forests have had behind them timber conservation and various and sundry things besides the welfare of the grass or the livestock. In the meantime there is a revival of the old rivalry between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture as to the control of federal lands. This is brought to a head by the apparently absurd condition under which the grazing on one kind of land is controlled in one bureau and on another kind of land in another bureau.

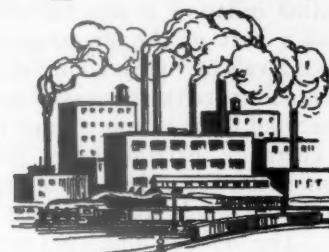
There are, in fact, no fewer than six federal agencies granting licenses or permits for grazing on Uncle Sam's land. The Department of Agriculture wants control of all this land. It is my personal judgment that the National Forest Service, or at least the Department of Agriculture, is swinging around to the point where it is about to recognize grazing as one of the real resources of the national forest, coordinate with timber. Possibly the Department of Agriculture, in its desire to administer all grazing lands, might be willing to take grazing from under the control of the professional forester. Perhaps I am too optimistic in this but many signs point in that direction.

In any case, we do know that the National Forest Service has opened up the whole question of distribution of national forest permits. New grazing policies are likewise being developed under the Taylor Grazing Act. In the meantime various people at Washington are thinking about combining these services. The prospects are, therefore, that the year of 1936 will see more important decisions made with reference to the use of western grazing lands than have been made in any other year in our history.

(Continued to page 44)

# National Wool Marketing Corporation

## News Bulletin



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GROWER OWNED AND OPERATED

### Conditions and Prospects of the Wool Market

*Boston, February 10, 1936*

**T**HE strength of the wool market cannot be denied. Present stocks of wool in the hands of dealers are scarcely sufficient to make a market. Not for many years has the supply of grease wool been so limited, now estimated to be around ten million pounds in the hands of approved dealers. Consumption is well maintained and the market is hungry for wool from the new clip.

#### *Foreign Market Gaining Strength*

Australian wools are again quoted as being 5 per cent dearer than last auctions. About all offerings are readily absorbed at constantly strengthening values, which indicates a broad demand for wool the world over. It is well to pause and consider the statistical position as to supply and demand. The foreign season is well advanced and the auctions will close in about thirty days without participation by America to any substantial degree. We consumed about five hundred and forty-five million pounds of greasy shorn wool in 1935 and produced about three hundred and twenty million pounds.

#### *Scarcity Developing*

If the present rate of consumption should continue throughout the present year, we would be short about two hundred million pounds that will have to be supplied from foreign wools or from substitutes. It is this condition that has caused contracting on the sheeps' back in a fairly broad way in the last two or three weeks. Texas has been the most fertile field for such operations. It is estimated that fully 25 per cent of the twelve months' clip of this state is now under contract.

The average price has been 30 cents to the grower with a few choice, light shrinking clips at a little more money. It is quite evident that much of this wool has been immediately resold to mills at a very substantial profit to the dealers at or slightly below the present Boston market for spot wools of similar character.

#### *Goods Market Particularly Strong*

More than usual activity prevails in the New York goods market and values are being advanced at a fairly rapid rate due to: first, the strength sustained in the foreign and domestic wool markets and second, to the substantial demand on the part of cutters-up and the retail trade. The top futures on the New York Stock Exchange have advanced about seven cents per pound in the last three weeks.

A dollar market clean basis is freely predicted. Perhaps this price has not been obtained due to the very poor selection available. There is little doubt, however, that good type wools of the new clip might command this figure.

### Preshearing Loans Available

Arrangements have been completed by the National Wool Marketing Corporation for the financing of winter, or pre-shearing, loans. These are at the rate of \$1 per head on 90 per cent of the flock.

Application blanks can be obtained from state wool marketing associations or from the National Wool Marketing Corporation direct.

#### *Inflation*

Another factor playing a large part in the present market situation is inflation. The present policy of our federal government will eventually have to bring about some type of inflation, either through the floating of more bonds or a greater expansion of credit.

It is conceded that the inflationist branch of the legislature does not have sufficient votes to pass a "free printing of greenbacks" bill over the President's veto. It is also generally believed that few new taxes will be



passed at this session of Congress because of the oncoming general elections.

All of these factors indicate that some type of controlled inflation is not far off. This accounts for at least a part of the advances that have taken place in price levels of many commodities and stocks. Business men and merchants consider ownership of a commodity like wool to be of more value than a dollar in the bank if currency inflation takes place. Any type of inflation will raise prices of all agricultural commodities, including wool, above present price levels.

The soldiers' bonus is a part of the inflation movement. A large share of this money will go through regular channels to be used in the purchase of clothing, thereby improving the demand and favorably influencing future prices.

### The National to Store Wool at San Francisco

**A**T a meeting of the California Wool Marketing Association, together with the General Manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation at their offices in San Francisco on February 1, it was decided to establish a branch warehouse at San Francisco which will be in charge of James Kershaw, who has been connected with the National Wool Marketing Corporation for a number of years and whose ability as an efficient wool man is recognized throughout the whole trade.

Government contracts placed in the season 1935 have served as quite a stimulant to the smaller manufacturing concerns of the West and Midwest. These mills constitute a valuable outlet for certain types of wool peculiarly adapted to their purposes.

In line with the new policy of the National Wool Marketing Corporation to supply a more flexible service to the wool growing industry of the United States, it was decided to establish this branch warehouse, first for the convenience of the wool growers of the extreme western part of the country, and second to provide stocks of wool that would be readily available for certain consuming units.

It is the plan to follow the growers' desires as far as possible as to whether the wool will be stored in San Francisco or shipped on to Boston from which the balance of the clips may be sold and shipped direct to the mills.

The various types of service opened through this warehouse will be optional to the growers. The National Wool Marketing Corporation will make the usual advance upon wools so stored.

We believe that this will prove to be a step in the right direction and a worth-while service to the western wool growers.

### National in Strong Financial Condition

**I**T is probable that the National Wool Marketing Corporation will have sold all of its 1935 consignments before March 31, 1936, which is the end of the current fiscal year. For the first time in our history this will make possible a complete liquidation of our accounts with member associations and growers. Our balance sheet on March 31 should show clearly the progress which has been made during the last four years.

While our tonnage has fluctuated from year to year since 1932, the total handled during the four years is two hundred million pounds, an average of fifty million a year. During this same period the National has been able to accumulate a substantial working capital out of its own income obtained at the established commission charge of two cents a pound, which includes four months' free storage and insurance.

#### Advances on 1936 Wools

This year for the first time the National will handle its refinancing operations exclusively with the Central Bank for Cooperatives in Washington. Previously we have only borrowed a small part of our requirements from this source and have used the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Springfield for the major share of our commodity financing.

Under a new arrangement within the Farm Credit Administration, we are now able to obtain all our loans from the Central Bank for Cooperatives. It is anticipated that this will be most advantageous. Our clerical work will be simplified somewhat, and we will be able to get the fullest benefit possible in the form of credit facilities to which our own working capital entitles us.

### Contracts on New Wool

**C**ONSIDERABLE activity in contracting for 1936 clips has been reported from California, Texas, Colorado, Arizona and Utah.

In the first weeks of the year, such business was confined to California where most contracts were for fine clips and on the basis of 25 cents. Later on numerous contracts were made at 30 cents. An outside price of 37 cents was given for the A. T. Spencer clip of Romeldale wool, which was estimated to shrink less than 45 per cent.

It was reported that by February 8, about 14 million pounds had been signed up in Texas at 30 to 31 cents, one dollar being advanced, without interest. These clips should reach Boston in May and June. It is reported that a good part of them were bought on mill orders, and that of those taken by dealers, many have been resold at a profit.

As high as 35 cents was reported as paid for light-shrinking Arizona clips to be shorn early. A group of growers in that state later announced they would hold for 40 cents.

At the first of the month, 30 and 31 cents was paid in western Colorado for light clips of mainly crossbred type. It is expected that these wools will come off this year in condition to show high yields. At the same time, some eastern Utah clips were taken at 25 to 27 cents, which represented about 83 cents, clean at Boston, or the same delivered cost as on the Colorado contracts. Twenty-five cents has also been paid in Nevada and Wyoming.

Following the buying wave of the first week of February, there was a lessening of activity and some houses appeared to be planning to wait until nearer shearing time to take on the balance of their customary volume.

# With the Women's Auxiliaries

## The National Convention

THE Seventh Annual Convention of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association was held in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the Hotel Utah, January 22, 23, and 24, 1936.

All meetings were well attended and a great deal of enthusiasm and good will existed throughout the sessions.

Mrs. J. R. Eliason of Utah, national president, presided at all meetings, with other national executive officers present as follows:

Mrs. Herman Oliver, Oregon, First Vice President.

Mrs. Leon Contor, Idaho, Second Vice President.

Mrs. David Smith, Utah, Treasurer.

Mrs. Parley A. Dansie, Utah, Secretary.

Mrs. E. E. Corfman, Utah, Parliamentarian.

Mrs. Ella I. Livingston, Utah, Press Correspondent.

Mrs. O. R. Ivory, Utah, Revisions.

Mrs. Henry Moss, Utah, Education.

Mrs. H. S. Erickson, Utah, Promotion.

Mrs. Sylvester Broadbent, Utah, State President.

Mrs. J. T. Edwards, Idaho, State President

Mrs. Edmund Meyer, Washington, State President.

Mrs. W. A. Roberts, Washington, Outgoing President.

Mrs. A. M. Swallow, Utah, Outgoing President.

Mrs. E. J. Kearns, Salt Lake, Convention Program.

Mrs. R. H. Winder, Salt Lake, Convention Hostess

Musical numbers were beautifully rendered at the different functions by the following artists: Mrs. Olive Hickman, community singing, accompanied by Mrs. Lilac Bush; J. J. Summerhays, vocal, accompanied by Virginia Summerhays Howard; instrumental trio furnished by Lyle Bradford and including La Vern



MRS. J. R. ELIASON  
President, National Auxiliary

Tuttle, Karen Tuttle, and Claire Moss; Yale Ward Ladies' Double Trio; Miss Lois Garff, violin solo; White Chapel Quartette, under direction B. F. Pulham; Mrs. Emery Epperson, accompanied by Renee Epperson Carlson.

A review of accomplishments of the past year was given by the respective state presidents and plans for the ensuing year were made.

The slogan "Serve and Serve More" was suggested for all members of the Auxiliary by the President, Mrs. Eliason.

An interesting and educational talk on wool promotion was given by Mr. Warren Drew, director of service for Associated Wool Industries, New York.

A complimentary luncheon was given at the Chamber of Commerce by that body, with Mrs. Winifred

P. Ralls in charge, for all delegates to the convention. The Salt Lake Chapter was hostess. Mrs. Herman Oliver and Mrs. J. R. Eliason were guest speakers and Mrs. Parley A. Dansie, chairman. Black address books, with a miniature white lamb on the front cover, were given as favors.

A breakfast was given at the Hotel Utah, with the visiting ladies as guests and the officers of the Utah State Auxiliary as hostesses. Mrs. H. S. Erickson was chairman. Roses at each place card were the favors.

The wool grower ladies were tendered a special organ recital on Friday at the L. D. S. Tabernacle, with Mr. Frank Asper at the console.

Mrs. Parley A. Dansie entertained the visiting executive officers at a luncheon at her home Friday afternoon.

The Promotion Committee of the Auxiliary held a competitive wool exhibit at the Hotel during the convention. Any article made of wool during the year 1935 was eligible to compete for the three prizes donated by Mr. D. J. O'Loughlin, Mr. Hyrum Erickson and Mr. M. A. Smith. The exhibits of the Idaho Auxiliary, the Arts and Crafts Section of the Wasatch Literary Club, and Mrs. Ed. Blaney won the prizes. Mrs. Hyrum S. Erickson, promotion chairman, assisted by Mrs. Wm. Oswald and Mrs. J. H. Manderfield, had charge of the exhibit.

The dinner dance at the Hotel Utah Friday evening closed the convention with a regal air. Some 450 guests were served and a beautiful floor show given, followed by dancing.

Material for this page should be sent to Mrs. Ella I. Livingston, National Press Correspondent, 241 East South Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

## The National Auxiliary

*Address by Mrs. J. R. Eliason Before the Seventy-First Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association*

I DEEM it an honor to be asked to represent the Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association at this convention.

We are meeting in our Seventh Annual Convention of the women's organization. May I here express my appreciation for the cooperation of all who have helped in arranging for the educational and social features of this convention.

The purpose of the Women's Auxiliary is to bring together women vitally interested in the industries represented in the National Wool Growers Association.

The object is to disseminate knowledge of the values of such industries through organized groups of the national, state and local auxiliaries. Activities of a practical, educational and social nature shall serve as a means of creating and maintaining the interest in preserving and protecting such industries. We have at present six states organized under the national organization.

In the midst of turmoil and confusion leaders find if they read books that make them think, rather than those that think for them, they get results. Men and women with clear ideas and right purpose, can, when working harmoniously together, revolutionize the whole world and create a new order. In this transition period filled with confusion and disorder, caused by economic depression, we must today hold fast to the principles gained through right thinking.

Through education, scientific research, promotion and proper balancing of values with a spirit of tolerance shown toward men and women, the leaders of organizations must tackle the problems as they arise. There are three kinds of leaders, enunciators, executives, and exemplars; just as there are three kinds of people, doers, thinkers, and adventurers. We need all three today, and as members we should study ourselves and others, to see where we can best be used.

Emerson said, "We have gained nothing until we have given something to someone else."

There are certain tests which every leader must face if he or she is to continue with success:

FIRST—A willingness to face real issues of the particular job in hand.

SECOND—A willingness to take risks. We cannot be sure of enlarging opportunity unless we are willing to take risks. We must have some spirit of adventure.

THIRD—The ability to take the middle of the road.

Real leadership is a result, a fruit, a grace of character, something ever growing and never quite achieved.

Through the educational programs arranged by our National Program Committee, all state and local auxiliaries have the opportunity of making a study of the legislative problems, the economic problems confronting the industry today. One of the extensive educational programs which will be carried out during the coming year will be the study of programs advanced by the Associated Wool Industries, which will include all phases of the industry from fiber to fabric, to finished merchandise. We rejoice in the conviction that the old fashioned club member, who came to hear a report and then adjourned for a game of bridge, is fast becoming as obsolete and as funny as the popular song of last year, or the old silent movies.

May I say to you who are proud of your membership in the national wool growers organization, see to it that your members swing into line and through constructive programs and intelligent service help your community and organization to mend today and build tomorrow. In applying such constructive program as we will place before the public the merits and the product of our industry.

Throughout the ages wool has been one of man's closest friends. No other textile fiber has afforded him greater protection, comfort and luxury. Sheep have been valuable to man for many thousands of years. Wool was important in the earliest civilization. Wool and sheep are referred to in the Bible; the Book of Genesis tells us that Abel was the keeper of sheep. Today wool still retains its position as the most versatile and useful textile fiber. No satisfactory substitute has ever been discovered or created in the scientific laboratory to replace wool.

The qualities and characteristics of wool that make it so desirable are inherent in the fiber itself and are due to its marvelous structure. It is one of nature's greatest insulators, maintaining an even body temperature under changing outside temperatures. Thus we find that wool keeps the warmth of the body in, and the winter cold out.

We find that wool is most desirable for wearing apparel designed for strenuous activity. We not only use wool for clothing from sports wear to evening clothes, but this product excels in most all the commodities used today, in wool blankets, drapes, automobile upholstery, in airplanes to prevent vibration and in machinery of all kinds to absorb shock or deaden noise.

Wool, above all fibers known and used by man through all time, has proven its worth and with the passing of the cen-

turies its importance as a textile fabric constantly deepens and widens. Modern living conditions, increased interest in sports and travel, and demand for formal fabrics which drape beautifully, resist wrinkling and are easy to care for, are the reasons why wool today is a fashion leader. When you think of wool you think of style, comfort, health and too, it provides long wear, as well as lasting luxury. Wear wool all day, every day,—wool will be your closest friend.

Mrs. Carmel Snow, editor of Harpers Bazaar, says: "Where once wool was believed to be confined to top coats and red flannel petticoats, we know that today wools form an important part in the bread, butter and cake of our fashions; no southern or summer wardrobe today is complete without the lovely sheer non-crushable wools for play clothes and active sports."

Have you an idea which might aid the plans for our future? We are concerned about the past only for the lessons it teaches us. I am sure that our success will come through organization and through the cooperation of every local, state and national group.

A story is told of a small circus traveling throughout the country making stops in the rural communities. With the show was a darky, very expert with a black whip. He could cut small bits of paper from your hand, even between your fingers, with the whip, without hurting you. Small flies flying around were easy marks for his deadly whip, and one by one they were snapped out. A bystander, after watching his uncanny accuracy with his whip, pointed to a hornet's nest in a tree nearby and said, "Let's see you cut the small end from the bottom of the nest." The darky smiled and said, "No, sir, brother—they's organized."

The past few years has witnessed a gigantic increase in the opportunities afforded the women in our wool growing states and the country as a whole. Today we find them making progress in the study of wool; in wool promotion through the organized industries, manufacturers' and wool growers' associations; in the legislative problems confronting the industry today; in the problems of marketing our product and other valuable information given to us by this association for our study. These all tend to give us the advantage for obtaining the goal we have aimed to reach. Our greatest aim should be: Educate ourselves, then teach others.

For a successful organization we must look to fundamentals as guide posts in our undertakings. The first of these is faith; second, confidence; third, ability; and fourth, cooperation.

As members of the organization we realize that nothing is as important to us today as to find ways and means to make secure the future for the industry.

(Continued to page 47)



# Lamb Market Conditions and Prices

## Chicago

**F**OLLOWING close on the Supreme Court A.A.A. decision, pork, previously ostracized by a large consumer element as a protest against the tax, acquired overnight popularity at the expense of other meats, and to the disadvantage of lamb.

Restaurateurs and retailers previously refusing to handle pork inaugurated leader sales, advertising remission of the tax somewhat flamboyantly. The tax on a pork loin was  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound; that much was deducted by packers and distributors were anxious not only to conciliate consumers, but make a practical demonstration of tax influence. Many chain stores displayed signs reading: "Eat pork; the tax is off." They also ran leader sales, vending both fresh and cured pork below wholesale cost. The furor lasted a few days, the public going to pork almost unanimously meanwhile.

On the last round of January chain stores again put lamb in the "leader" sale category, but the popularity of the lower priced pork was too great, so lamb was neglected and prices broke to the lowest level since the crest of the December rise was passed. At the high time before the turn of the year packers made an \$11.90 lamb top in Chicago; on the break subsequent to the Supreme Court decision in January their top dropped to \$10.25, product accumulated in distribution channels, and on a slump of \$1 to \$1.50 per hundred in dressed lamb at the Atlantic seaboard, recourse was had to the freezer to relieve congestion.

Price irregularity was aggravated by killers laying out, often going short of requirements, which forced them to cover at sharp advances by buying for numbers. As

it worked out, few lambs sold under \$10.25; a mere handful above \$10.75. Much of the time \$10.50 was a popular price, a basis that enabled killers to clear the product and feeders to break even, with money to the good in a majority of cases, after recovering the investment and paying feed bills. In some respects it was an era of good feeling, as feeders were reimbursed, killers had plus margins, and lamb was kept out of the luxury category.

At the end of February, few winter fed lambs remained east of the Missouri River; natives had practically vanished, putting Colorado and Nebraska in strong strategic position, decidedly superior to the corresponding period of 1935 when Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin were cluttered up with western lambs. Indiana moved a goodly share of its holdings during January and Iowa was approaching the bare stage to the consternation of interior packers, handling 50,000 to 60,000 weekly and confronted with necessity of going to western markets for cooler replenishment. In possession of the great bulk of visible supply by early February, northern Colorado, with more than a million head concealed in its capacious sleeve, began topping out at mid-January, to continue that process until the last lamb has gone. Loading in Colorado was heralded by swelling receipts at Denver, Omaha, and Chicago, where they sold at, or around the top. This initial movement was welcomed by packers who would have been short otherwise; incidentally supply accession prevented recurrence of what happened in December.

That the market undertone is healthy, daily clearances indicate. Killers may resort to strenuous effort to dent prices, but they invariably show their hands on every short run. This tonicity is reasonably reassuring that the price list is stoutly

propped by wool if nothing else. A year ago when fat lambs were selling at \$9@9.25, pelt credits were 50 to 75 per cent less; in fact wool was a drug throwing a burden on the edible portion of the carcass.

Prospects for the next 90 days are reasonably assuring. Not that a runaway market is probable, but no debacle is on the horizon, especially if wool prices are maintained, pelt credits averaging about \$3 per hundred.

Dressed trade is nothing if not erratic and yet violent mutations have not developed. Dressed carcass prices have at no time declined or advanced to exceed \$1 per hundred in a week; usually changes do not exceed 50 cents during that period. Current carcass quotations range from \$15 for common to \$18 for choice lambs at Chicago; \$16 to \$20 at the Atlantic seaboard. At the corresponding time last year, the range was \$14.50 to \$18.50 at Chicago; a dollar more at New York, although live lambs were \$1.50 per hundred lower at that time, the apparent discrepancy being explained by the fact that the appreciation in wool is taking up the slack. Had wool remained at last year's prices, fat lambs would probably be selling considerably lower. Dressed prices at the inception of January and a month later showed little change, although fluctuating \$1 per hundred or more ad interim.

Few common, or low-cost lambs have reported at the market, enabling them to sell well, the bulk of the crop running fair to good so far as condition is concerned. Killers have complained of low yields, 45 to 47 per cent, forcing them to take 95 to 100 pounds to get condition, which has prevented discrimination against big lambs. Incidentally this has made a healthy market for 85 to 95-pound yearlings of Texas origin but fed mainly in Iowa and realizing

anywhere from \$9.50 to \$10 per hundred. With a majority of these yearlings, carrying medium grade wools, break joints give the product a place on the lamb rail; if not "breakers" they are discounted \$1 per hundred, a percentage mouthing two years old. These yearlings do well in the feed lot, get a cordial reception at killers' hands and the product does not run into sales resistance at the butcher shop.

Colorado's 10 to 15 per cent on feed in excess of last year is not taken seriously as the comparison is with a short year. Of more significance is a pronounced disposition on the part of feeders to load out at the earliest opportunity, which is likely to insure generous slaughter until well along in March. Iowa and Minnesota killers, such as Hormel, Rath-er, Morrell, and Wilson, not to speak of several lesser concerns, and handling 50 to 60 thousand carcasses weekly, could easily absorb Colorado's accretion, and then competition, negligible when they are getting supplies from local territory, would be effective in supporting prices if their buyers were forced into the public markets. Handling local stock, they are not competitive on the buying side. In any case Colorado's increase, compared with a year ago, is more than offset by deficiency east of the Missouri River.

Slaughter figures are being maintained. That of December, under federal inspection, was 1,368,654, compared with 1,294,896 in December, 1934, and during the first quarter of 1936 no substantial reduction is expected. Tonnage of beef and pork is considerably below normal, which may exert a sustaining influence on prices of ovine product.

J. E. Poole

## Denver

**F**ED lambs dropped from 50 to 75 cents at Denver during the month of January. Ewes were 25 to 50 cents lower at the close of the month than at the opening.

The receipts were quite liberal, totaling 139,265 head of sheep and lambs during the month, as compared to 123,105 received at Denver during the corresponding month of 1935.

At the close of December good quality fat lambs were running in goodly numbers from feed lots of tributary territory, with the best selling at \$10.90 freight paid. Declines during the first week in January carried the tops to \$10.35. This price was fairly well maintained up to January 29, when best fed lambs sold here at \$10.40. The next couple of days the market dropped, and at the close choice fed lambs were selling at \$10.15. Most of the desirable lambs were selling at that time from \$9.90 to \$10.15 and plainer kinds down to \$9.50.

Since the close of January choice fed lambs sold up to \$10.60 freight paid at Denver, but later the market lost some of this advance.

During the week of the National Western Stock Show eastern seaboard buyers took 67 carloads of lambs, or around 17,000 head. These went to slaughter plants in New York, Brooklyn, Hoboken, and Harrison, New Jersey. Twenty cars were purchased by interior Iowa packers, while two carloads went to a Cincinnati packer. The balance of 60 carloads went to various slaughtering points in Illinois and Nebraska.

Receipts were not materially heavier during show week than on other weeks of the month, when many lambs were purchased here for shipment to eastern slaughterers.

W. N. Fulton

## Kansas City

**L**AMBS declined 40 to 50 cents in January, but they averaged more than \$1 higher than the first month of 1935 and \$4 higher than in January, 1933 and 1934 and the highest in the first month in any year since 1930. The market had a steady downward course in the first three weeks, but rallied slightly,

dipped again and then rallied to close with a firmer trend in evidence. The peak price of \$11 was paid in the first three days, but by the 9th the top fell to \$10.25, followed by a rally to \$10.65. By the twentieth quotations were \$10.25 down, and \$10.60 was again paid on the 23, 24, and 25. On the 27th there was a 35 to 40-cent break that carried prices to \$10.10 and under. By the 30th \$10.60 was recorded and on the last day of the month nothing but truck-in offerings were reported; they sold at \$10.15 down. However, both salesmen and killer buyers quoted a nominal of \$10.50 for best lambs, which would make a 40-cent break from the December close. In the last half of January the average was the lowest since November.

Th most important thing in the general market situation is that demand was able to care for increased supplies without a big break in prices. The movement reached peak volume in the third week of January. Feeders have been shipping lambs as soon as they rounded into condition, which means that late supplies will be smaller than last year and that the buying side cannot count on runs being heavier than at the present time.

In the first 25 days in January northern Colorado, the Arkansas, and San Luis valleys and the western slope shipped 1,023 double decks of sheep and lambs to the various markets. This compares with 722 doubles in the same period 1935 and 662 doubles in 1934. In round figures this is an increased marketing of 75,000 head over 1935 and 109,000 more than in January, 1934.

January 1, the Department of Agriculture reported 5.4 per cent fewer lambs on feed than on the same date 1935. Thus the 1936 marketings have been, relatively at least, 38 per cent larger than in January, 1935.

Lambs are coming at heavier than normal average weight. This is due to the fact that they went into feed lots weighing more than usual and

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# The Sheepmen's National Convention

(Continued from page 8)

though the latter method was probably the easier one. Stockmen at the convention were particularly interested in the governmental development of water supplies as explained by Mr. McClymond, through the construction of dams, spillways, and contour furrows which prevent the moisture from running off slopes and carrying surface soil with it and increase the forage growth by the retention of the moisture along the furrows.

Stockmen on whose lands these soil conservation projects are located sign a five-year contract with the government, and while they contribute to the work with teams, tractors, and sometimes labor, the actual dollars-and-cents outlay is very small and usually comes, according to Mr. McClymond, through the fact that the owner wants a certain type of dam put in that requires extra material. The entire cost of the construction work is very low on account of the government's equipment for handling it.

Mr. Potter's presentation of the national land planning program carried the sound admonition to sheepmen and their organizations to study carefully the government's plans for future land use, because since they used public lands they were in the project whether they wanted to be or not. His paper appears elsewhere in this issue.

## Sheep Diseases

Sheep diseases and other close-to-home problems are always topics of great interest to sheepmen, as was convincingly proven in the reception of Dr. Clawson's discussion of bighead in sheep and the investigations and experiments now being conducted by the Bureau of Animal Industry as to its causes and prevention. Readers of the Wool Grower are more or less familiar with these experiments, as several articles by Dr. Clawson have appeared in its pages during the past two years, the most recent one being that in the January, 1936, issue. On this account, no detail of Dr. Clawson's talk, which was illustrated with lantern slides, is given, but there is presented on page 29, the paper of Dr. W. T. Huffman of the Salt Lake office of the Bureau of Animal Industry, who has been collaborating with Dr. Clawson in the bighead work, and who followed him on the convention program.

## Lamb Marketing

Thursday was the big day of the convention. Here came the two addresses on lamb marketing questions by M. O. Cooper of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and P. O. Wilson, general manager of the National Live Stock Marketing Association; the Chief Forester's address (covered above), S. W. McClure on the tariff;

and F. R. Carpenter on the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act which was followed by an hour or so of rather heated discussion.

Mr. Cooper's very clear and complete discussion of the work of the Bureau of Animal Industry under the Packers and Stockyards Act in prescribing reasonable commission and yardage rates will appear in a later issue of the Wool Grower. We mention at this time, however, his advice to sheepmen to be very cautious about accepting, in payment for stock, drafts drawn by agents in the country upon a market agency at a public market. During the past year, he said, the Department had handled four cases in which drafts had been accepted by stockmen and the market agency refused to honor them and simply sent back the proceeds of the sale at the market.

"Stockmen should satisfy themselves," Mr. Cooper stated, "that the man presenting the draft is authorized to draw drafts. If we can secure evidence that the country buyer issuing the draft is an agent of the market agency upon which it is drawn, we can do something about these cases, but where we cannot get such evidence, there is nothing to be done."

Even where there is sufficient evidence to bring a conviction in these cases, the Department of Agriculture has no authority to compel reparation, and if the market agency fails to comply with the Secretary's order, the only thing the injured stockmen can do is to sue in court on the basis of that order.

In concluding, Mr. Cooper declared that shippers were entitled to the best of service from their market agencies because at each market where the Department has prescribed rates, the base used has included a sufficient amount to employ competent salesmen, top salaries and not averages being used in the computations.

"The trouble with both the direct and central marketing systems," Mr. P. O. Wilson said, "is that too many people operating within the systems are interested in what they are going to take out of the system for themselves and not in the price the livestock is going to bring to you, the grower." Mr. Wilson continued:

The National Live Stock Marketing Association believes that there is good in both of the systems if properly handled, but that it is necessary to operate intelligently and efficiently within either system, keeping in mind all the time the interest of the man who grew and fed the livestock rather than the man who is taking the toll between the producer and the consumer for handling and operating the system.

These times make it more necessary than ever, whether the producer markets through the direct or terminal systems, that he do it in an organized, systematized way. For price is neither made on any one terminal nor



is it made in the country. But there is one thing affecting that price which is greater than either one of the systems and that is the weak sales made either by producers, commission men, agents or others within both systems. If you are selling your lambs on your range and are not informed on prices, retail and wholesale, at eastern centers, if you are not informed on prices at leading market centers, and of other factors involved, you are not qualified to close that sale. If your lambs are in the hands of a commission firm on the market who sells on what I call the "hunch," with no information, or little information about general conditions, he is not qualified, regardless of the commission he charges, to handle your sale. In both cases, both individuals are weakening the price levels on lambs or whatever they are selling.

Mr. Wilson also gave a comprehensive picture of the operation of the cooperative livestock marketing organization and its financial condition. Sheepmen will be given an opportunity to read his complete address in the March issue of the National Wool Grower.

The full text of Mr. McClure's talk on tariff affairs will appear in the March Wool Grower, a very concise statement by one of the sheepmen's ablest exponents of the principle of protective tariff.

#### *Taylor Grazing Act*

A barrage of questions met Mr. Carpenter at the conclusion of his talk on the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act. In this talk he had asked the sheepmen to be less suspicious about regulation of the public domain under the Taylor Act, declaring that a good many of the earlier suspicions held by growers had been found groundless as the regulation proceeded. But from the discussion that followed, it was quite evident that a good deal of suspicion was still unallayed. It was the last section of the morning program, and 12 o'clock came; 12:30, 12:45 and still the debate went on. Finally Mr. Carpenter said that he would come back at the opening of the afternoon session to answer further questions; so at 1:30 the discussion began again and continued until it was necessary to proceed with the scheduled afternoon program.

Judge Adair J. Hotchkiss of Grand Junction, Colorado, spoke briefly after Mr. Carpenter on the need for granting the same rights and opportunities to the sheepmen as to the cattlemen in working for the proper regulation of the public domain under the Taylor Act.

#### *Federal Motor Carrier Act*

Wool and its marketing was the chief subject of the last convention day (Friday, the 24th). The only exception to this was the very interesting explanation of the new Federal Motor Carrier Act and its probable effect upon shippers, given by Mr. John Springer, western representative of the National Highway Users Conference.

All shippers are concerned, Mr. Springer said, with the interpretation of this act and the rates established under it for motor transportation, for in them largely lies the answer to the question of whether or not the

competition which the trucks have furnished to the railroads is to continue. There were a great many questions to be considered, he said. For example, does the word "coordination" as used in the act mean the return of monopoly, the beginning of a great consolidation of common carrier transportations which will come under the railroads, and will shippers be aware of this condition?

All over the country, Mr. Springer pointed out, truck operators were meeting to determine what rates they would establish under federal regulation. In many cases, the operators have gone in and suggested highway transportation rates be made the same as railroad rates, which means the elimination of highway competition.

"We are only asking for a fair deal," said Mr. Springer. "Highway transportation should pay its full share of the cost of government."

#### *Wool Promotion*

How Associated Wool Industries has promoted the use of wool during the past year was shown by Mr. Warren Drew, its director of service. Mr. Drew said:

In Associated Wool Industries three powerful promotion forces have been used—publicity, fashion exploitation and merchandising. Each department of Associated Wool Industries has done its share in building up the well-rounded, aggressive campaign that has been carried forward for the advancement of wool. It is safe to say that wool as a fiber of fashion has had more publicity throughout the nation, more attention from home economics and other consumer groups, and more interest from retail stores during 1935 than any period in recent years. Consumer publicity has been growing rapidly and broadening in scope from month to month. Every week, millions of men and women open their newspapers and read about the fashion importance of wool, about its qualities and advantages.

"Seven Wonders of Wool," an educational talking slide film recently produced by Associated Wool Industries for sales training purposes and dramatizing the important selling points of wool and wool merchandise, is now available to stores.

An educational, illustrated chart titled "From Wool to Fabrics," setting forth the processes of manufacture from raw wool to finished product is also available to stores and educational institutions.

"News Flash," a bulletin issued by the Fashion Department of Associated Wool Industries, brings to retailers at frequent intervals news regarding current fashions in wool.

"Associated Wool Industries' News," an illustrated tabloid newspaper is published monthly, posts retailers on the progress of wool promotion and informs store executives of interesting new merchandising developments in wool fabrics and fashions.

Many special promotions are being given attention, such as the campaign to educate the public as to the advantages of tropical worsteds for men's suits for summer wear. A Tropical Worsteds "Band-wagon" portfolio tells the story of this "Cool Wool" campaign for 1936 and these are now in the hands of leading tropical worsteds manufacturers for use by them in bringing to the attention of retailers the practical sales aids presented in this campaign.

These are but a few of the many and varied activities daily being pushed forward by Associated Wool Industries.

Wool growers were urged by President Ellenwood in his annual address to give full support to the work of the A.W.I., and the convention as a whole went on record as favoring the deduction of 10 cents a bag of wool for the promotion of wool and urging growers to see that all wool contracts signed by them included the authorization for such deduction.

### Wool Marketing

There was a new angle to the discussion on wool marketing at the convention this year, that of holding wool auctions. Mr. Russell Wilkins, of Merriam and Wilkins, told of experiences with auctions held by his firm at Ogden in 1934 and 1935. On behalf of the local auction, Mr. Wilkins cited the following advantages:

It shortens the gap between the grower and the user; it permits the marketing of wool at some point in the territory near to where it is produced; it permits the most economical distribution; it gives consideration in the prices paid to the individual merits of each clip and eliminates pool averages; it also eliminates favoritism, as no grower's wool sells for more than another's merely because he is a man of influence of the community; and it makes it possible for each grower's wool to receive consideration from not one, but many buyers at the same time.

The merits of the auction system of wool marketing were also considered by Mr. C. J. Fawcett, general manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, but he brought before the convention facts, that in his opinion, make it essential to hold them closer to the manufacturing centers. There was no reason why manufacturers would not patronize wool auctions, he stated, if held in the manufacturing centers and the wool was prepared in a manner suited to their specific needs, that is, graded according to their needs rather than to government standards.

The Corporation wanted to serve its members in the best possible way, he said, and would be guided by their wishes in the methods used in disposing of its tonnage.

The reasons why the cooperative marketing of wool had not reached the highest degree of success were set forth by Prof. J. F. Wilson of the University of California. He said in part:

Cooperative marketing is a logical, sound, and intelligent thing; the wool growers of this country are willing to organize cooperatives because they have organized a dozen or twenty of them, but they are not willing to patronize, year after year, the organization which they bring into being. Why? One of the most potent factors is their competitor, the wool dealers, whose propaganda is quite familiar to you. It is quite natural that they should do everything in their power to undermine the cooperative movement, and we must not malign them for what they do, yet they are one of the reasons for bringing to unpopularity the cooperative movement. In the second place, mistakes are being made by the co-operators themselves through inefficient management; and the third factor is the psychology of the wool grower himself. The grower is an individualist. It does not make any difference to him whether he knows anything

about his wool or not, he wants to have something to say about selling it. \* \* \* Wool growers as a group, have shown an unwillingness to sign up over long periods of time; so there is the one-year contract, which is ridiculous, for you must patronize the co-op over a period of years in order to get in on the rising markets as well as the low periods. When the market is falling the cooperative gets the wool; the dealers begin to pull in their necks like a bunch of turtles. And the prices keep going down and the cooperatives probably have to sell wool at lower figures than producer could have had at time of shearing. The best time to patronize the cooperative is on a rising market, which gives it a chance to dispose of the clip evenly. \* \* \*

The cooperative is one of the most potent things in the market to prime dealers up to pay the prices they do. Whether or not you are under the umbrella, you are getting its protection. \* \* \* I suggest to the directors of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, that they investigate and see if certain changes cannot be made which will take cognizance of the fact that the wool grower is an individualist, that he wants to have a greater say about the handling of his own clip, realizing that if he makes a mistake himself he is going to keep his mouth shut, but if the cooperative makes the mistake, the grower is going to tell every one.

Prof. Wilson also told wool growers of the great part proper feeding of ewes plays in the growth of wool, which subject will be covered by him in a later issue.

President Charles Redd of the National Wool Marketing Corporation agreed in the main with Prof. Wilson's statements about cooperative marketing, especially in that the solution of a good part of the difficulties lies with the growers themselves. Consignment of wool over a period of years had been found by many prominent growers to be successful, he said, but what apparently was needed to make the corporation the important factor in wool marketing that it should be was courage.

"We are willing," Mr. Redd said, "to fight this thing out on the battlefield of service and price, but we have to have the tonnage to build up a sound marketing program."

General Manager Fawcett stated that the National Wool Marketing Corporation had marketed approximately 70 million pounds of wool since May 1, 1935, or the equivalent of about one fifth of the 1935 domestic production. "Thus," he continued, "it will be seen that the growers' selling organization has been a leader in the wool trade and played an important part in lifting values from 56 cents clean basis on average original bag territory wool, which was the market upon May 1st of last year, to about 83 cents clean value for the same type of wool upon January 1st of this year. The domestic market is now well established on a parity with foreign wools, and one of the most important objectives for which this organization was created has been accomplished."

The music for the convention was furnished by the Utah Quartette and the Whitelock-Keddington Quartette, and during the last session, Mr. Peter Spraynozzle, radio artist, entertained the sheepmen with bits from his philosophy of life.

## The President's Annual Address

(Continued from page 23)

We must meet the competition of the other fibers by advertising even when we have a much superior article. We note in a recent issue of the California Wool Grower an item from the Christian Science Monitor that we may soon have one more fiber to meet as a competitor.

"Fibers of glass which look like strands of spun sugar can now be twisted into thread or yarn for textiles wholly of glass. Ground was broken here, (Corning, N. Y.), yesterday for the first factory in this new industry \* \* \*. Today officials of the Corning Glass Works where technicians have been carrying on experiments for eleven years, see the beginning of a new industry in which glass as a new type of 'dry goods' may become as important among textiles as cotton, wool, silk and rayon."

The product is known as "spun-glass wool." It can be spun into yarn and woven on standard textile looms. Its strength is almost unbelievable. It can stand by actual tests pressures up to 1,000,000 pounds a square inch. "In the chemical laboratory it has been found excellent for insulation and filters," the Monitor points out. "As insulating material its exceptionally light weight is highly desirable and likewise the high absorption power for both sound and heat rays. In filters it is unusually resistant to acids and other corrosives."

The mill men and wool men are doing exceptionally well but the growers have not responded as they should. It was anticipated in the beginning that contributions from the growers would easily reach \$25,000.00. However, the facts are they are less than \$2,000.00. This is a very poor showing on our part but I feel confident that many growers did not realize what it was all about last year until after their

wool was sold. Let us resolve this year that we will do our part. If each and every grower in the United States would contribute only ten cents per bag to this cause \$100,000.00 would represent our contribution to this great work. I believe it would be returned with even better interest on the investment than you can now expect.

### *The Women's Auxiliary*

In connection with this, I wish to call your attention to the work of the Women's Auxiliaries. The ladies interested in the welfare of the wool growing industry have been doing a wonderful work, but in my opinion the real opportunity has come now. They are cooperating with the Associated Wool Industries and making it a success far beyond our expectation, I am sure. Their association in this work will mean much more than the financing which we are asked to do. If we only do our part toward financing, I am sure the ladies will carry their work to a successful conclusion.

### *The Railroads*

I wish to congratulate the various railroads, particularly relative to their passenger service. The air-conditioned cars without extra charge make traveling a pleasure and no doubt the volume of business has been increased materially. Nothing increases business in any line like rendering "more and better service."

In the general plan of providing better service it just seems to me a little more thought might be given to the culinary department. When we enter a dining car we get a headache trying to figure out how to satisfy the craving of the inner man and still have enough money left to complete our journey. Of course, we expect to pay a good price for meals on the train but to all livestock men it is hardly fair to feature

fish on the menu at prices ranging anywhere from 25 cents to \$1 per meal cheaper than good lamb or beef. The cost of fish is not enough less per pound to make a difference of more than five cents per meal. Do the fish people do so much shipping by freight? And, do they travel by rail to any great extent? My opinion is that most of their transportation money is spent on the water whereas the livestock people ship most of their fat stock to market by rail and our meat products go all over the country by rail. We ship most of our wool to the East by rail, then it comes back again by rail in the form of manufactured goods. Just as a matter of "reciprocity" it seems only reasonable that the livestock industry should have a little better break in the dining cars.

### *Public Domain*

The policy of handling the public domain in general and the management of the Taylor Grazing Act in particular are questions uppermost in the minds of many of our members today. I do not intend to enter into any detailed discussion of this great question. However, in all fairness it seems that the men who have built their homes and made large investments in land with the public domain as a background, often representing a good portion of said investments in land, should have the first right to the use of said public domain and at a reasonable fee.

The man who has a hay ranch or a grain ranch and who has been operating as such with no thought or investment in such ranch as it might relate to the public domain should not at this late date be considered as having commensurate property and entitled to take a portion of the public domain away from the range man, whose entire investment is built around, and dependent upon, the use of those lands. In the administration of the Taylor Grazing Act the most important thing is to have it done by a western man like Mr. Carpenter who speaks the language and understands western conditions.



**A.A.A.**

Now that the A. A. A. is in the hospital, in its present form at least, there is no reason for lengthy discussion here. We shall not proceed farther without first expressing our appreciation to the present administration in general, and to Mr. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, in particular, for sincere efforts in attempting to restore the buying power of the farmer, which all recognize as the main cornerstone of a prosperous nation. We cannot see how this can be accomplished, however, by inviting the foreigner, through reciprocal trade agreements, to bring his agricultural products here.

By radio talks and press reports the Secretary of Agriculture calls crop control and processing taxes the "farmers' tariff." Let us, by comparison, see which is the "farmers' tariff."

The protective tariff applies to all products but is particularly effective on products of which we have no surplus and all of us know that there are many, many times more of the former. A processing tax is 100 per cent effective in added costs on that product, while a protective tariff is there for the producer of that product and it is up to him to secure its benefits by intelligent marketing. Seldom, if ever, do wool growers realize anywhere near the amount of protection that is written in the law.

A protective tariff produces millions in revenue for the government whereas processing taxes are simply an added cost of government operation. A protective tariff is in no way dependent upon a processing tax for assistance while a processing tax is entirely dependent upon having a protective tariff on that article at the same time. Otherwise large importations would lower the market price until the benefit payments would not equal the decline in price.

In the future let it be realized that A. A. A. programs with processing taxes must be planned as assisting the protective tariff on specified

farm products and not as a substitute for it.

**Overexpansion in Business**

The astrologers foretell a cycle of prosperity which may last seven years. In the United States they predict that food crop prices will advance to a point where it will cause public anxiety and indignation. Booms in the stock market are foreseen. Americans will make and lose fortunes in another cycle of speculation.

Even Babson's report states "not in any year-end since the late twenties have I felt surer than I do today that plans could be laid on the basis of better business during the coming twelve months." He predicts the buying power of the farmer will be up from 5 to 15 per cent over 1935, general business up 10 per cent and that the boom in the stock market will continue. Let us hope that these predictions come true and that the sheep industry moves upward equally with general business.

However, I wish to remind you that when the trend is upward we must keep our feet on the ground, this is no time for expansion by those already in the business and no time for outsiders to start in the business. Keep in mind the disaster of 1929 and 1930. Most of the failures among sheepmen and bankers in the past were due to overexpansion at inflated prices. When prices are good that is the time to reduce the size of our outfits and increase our equities in business by paying off a portion or all of our indebtedness. I assure you, fellow sheepmen, that I feel this is the most important message I have for you at this, the 71st Annual Convention. Our slogan must be "more equity, fewer sheep."

**Government Loan Agencies**

During the past few years of depression many livestock men and livestock bankers have been saved by the various government loan agencies. Now that prices have an upward trend and private bankers have a surplus of money to loan there

may be a tendency to foresake these concerns and deal more with the home banker. Bankers are human and their relation to the wool grower is much as the wool grower's is to the co-op, only reversed. When prices are good the grower sells his wool and lets the co-ops suffer but when prices are bad the co-ops have more tonnage than they can well handle. When prices are good many bankers solicit and secure the grower's business and too often urge him to borrow and expand but when prices are depressed he wants his money and does not want the grower's business. I do not mean that we should forget the banker altogether, but our land loans are easier and better with the Federal Land Banks and a good portion of our livestock loans may be less liable to foreclosure in times of disaster with Production Credit Associations. We should always remember the banker, either private or government loan agency, who was a friend in time of trouble.

**Organization**

The new year finds our industry in much better condition than a year ago. According to the Department of Agriculture, "apparent wool supplies in four important exporting countries are now about 13 per cent less than those of a year ago." The available supply of old wool is less than it has been for years whereas a year ago the supply was exceedingly large. Many factors entered into the betterment of the situation but not the least of these was the work done by your Association.

In this connection I cannot refrain from mentioning the excellent work done by our National Secretary, F. R. Marshall. Fortunate, indeed, were we when we lost the valuable service of our former Secretary, Dr. S. W. McClure, to secure such an able man to succeed him. We never really know a man until we are affiliated with him in business and I can assure you that I never really knew our Secretary until I assumed the responsibilities of president. His great knowledge of

the business in all its phases and his ability to apply that knowledge makes him an ideal man for this position. I assure you it has been a pleasure to work with such a man.

I wish to thank all those who have assisted, financially and otherwise, in carrying on the great work of this organization this past year. I know a man feels better and he is better if he has contributed something to the general good of the industry.

The pond or lake that receives fresh water from the surrounding

hills but has no outlet soon becomes stagnant and unfit for animal consumption. So with us, if we hope to remain alive and active we must give and not always be on the receiving end.

Give to, or invest in your organization, it pays good dividends in good years or bad ones. Besides, the thought of having helped a good cause is worth considerable. Remember, too, the more we do for the general good while living, the more we are honored when we have gone.

of range I am including here a table showing the ownership of Oregon range lands measured both by acres and by capacity.

#### Oregon Range Lands

	% Total acres	% Total capacity
National Forest _____	24	18
Public Domain _____	29	28
Miscellaneous ownership _____	31	26
Range lands in farms and ranches _____	17	28

In view of this situation I do not see how our western stockmen, either cattlemen or sheepmen, can possibly ignore the land use planning which is now going on at Washington. Whether you take part in it or whether you do not, it is sure to affect you in the end. I believe our sheepmen were wise in their decision that they did not want a production control program for sheep similar to that which was developed for corn, hogs and wheat. Land use planning, however, is another matter and whether we believe in it or whether we do not, it is here and if it means anything at all its effects will be most pronounced in the case of the lands which are actually owned by the federal government.

In addition to federal land planning, much state and local planning is under way. Zoning laws are being proposed in nearly every state. The general import of these laws is to give some central authority power to determine what land may be used for farming, what for timber, what for grazing, and so on. Most of these laws are being offered with good intentions, but they are none the less full of danger to grazing interests.

#### Stockmen's Representation

Unfortunately we do not know at the present time exactly what can and cannot be done. The facts are not yet all in front of us. I believe, however, that this association should make preparation to take a very active and vigorous part in everything that is going on during the coming twelve months. I will take the liberty to suggest that this association should have for the coming year

## Land Use Planning and The Sheep Industry

(Continued from page 32)

It is not necessary to take the time of this audience in telling you that grazing on the public lands is important to western stockmen. It may, however, be worth while to give a few figures as to actually how important. The following table gives a general idea of the ownership of range land in the eleven western states:

<b>Range Lands</b> Eleven Western States	
	Millions of acres
National Forests _____	122
Public Domain _____	171
Indian _____	36
Miscellaneous Federal _____	50
<b>TOTAL FEDERAL</b> _____	<b>379</b>
Private—not in farms or ranches _____	130
In farms and ranches _____	161
<b>TOTAL ALL RANGE LAND</b> _____	<b>670</b>

We see from this that 57 per cent of our range land in the eleven western states belongs to the United States government, which means that Congress can do as it pleases with it. Nearly half of this federal land is in the national forest, which means, in turn, that the National Forest Service can do with it as it pleases as far as grazing is concerned, unless actually stopped by

an act of Congress. Nearly 20 per cent of our grazing lands is in the hands of miscellaneous private owners and not farmers or stockmen. The government does not control this land but neither do the farmers or stockmen. There remains 24 per cent which is in established farms and ranches and which is at least nominally under the control of our stockmen. Of course, these percentages are based on acres rather than carrying capacity. The capacity of these various types of land for all of the eleven western states has not been accurately determined but a rough estimate on the basis of capacity would be 40 per cent federal, 20 per cent miscellaneous and 40 per cent in farms and ranches. These figures are for the eleven western states. Half of the privately owned grazing land in these states is in the strip of the Great Plains east of the Rocky Mountains and in the four states of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico. West of the Rocky Mountains the percentage of privately owned grazing land is pitifully small. My own state of Oregon is, I believe, typical and since we know pretty well both the acres and capacity of the different types

the strongest possible committee to devote its attention to range and land use problems. This committee should devote a good deal of study to the situation in the eleven western states and it should encourage the collection of information and the formation of plans in each of the individual states. This committee should also serve as a legislative or diplomatic committee, if I may speak of it as such. Range land use may be affected either by Congressional legislation or by executive order or by ruling of departmental heads in the case of Taylor Act and national forest lands. I have mentioned studies that were being made by the National Forest Service and the various experiment stations. I believe our stockmen's organizations should have a part in this. At least they should know what is going on. In my own state our stockmen's organizations have signified a willingness to take part and lend a hand. In the meantime there have appeared in some of our local stockmen's organizations, resolutions recommending that the administration of all grazing on federal lands be put under the Department of Agriculture. It would seem quite logical that the administration of lands for agricultural purposes should be under the Department of Agriculture but I believe our organizations would be wise if before approving such a resolution they would insist that whatever division might be set up to handle the administration of public lands should be so organized that grazing would be coordinate with and not subordinate to timber and other uses.

I believe that in all of our deliberations and negotiations we should endeavor as far as possible to keep free from local and transitory issues and instead work toward the establishment of broad, sound principles upon which the permanent future utilization of these federal lands may be based. In my judgment the present use of the federal lands in the larger part of our territory is sound and defensible. It will be necessary, however, to prove the

case. Much effort will doubtless be made by various agencies to force upon us plans for land use and land utilization which are not sound. These unsound plans cannot be eliminated by mere ridicule. We must, therefore, not only be sure that we are working on the right basis but we must have the facts to prove it, and, finally, we must have the political force and power to insure a fair deal. All of this must

be combined with sufficient diplomacy and tact to avoid inciting unnecessary opposition or antagonism. Personally I am optimistic enough to feel that the next annual meeting of this association will see our administration of grazing on federally owned lands on a sounder basis than it is at present. I would not, however, minimize either the dangers involved or the amount of work that there is to be done.

## Lamb Market Conditions

(Continued from page 38)

with weather and feed conditions excellent, they fattened rapidly. The increased marketward movement in January is due more to weight than to market prices. Northern Colorado and the Scottsbluff sections have been the largest shippers. In January they marketed 812 double decks as against 558 doubles in the same period last year. When lambs go into feed lots in light weights those two sections do not ship in volume until after the middle of February. Shipments from the Arkansas, San Luis and western slope have been relatively small, only 201 cars moved, as compared with 167 in the same period last year. It looks as if winter fed lambs will have been marketed closely before the new crop early lambs from California and Arizona begin to put in an appearance. In years when January marketings are heavy the February market is usually higher, but when supplies of fat lambs are small in January the February market is lower. There has been heavy marketing in the past thirty days so that the trade anticipates a strong market during the next six months.

The Kansas City territory has fewer sheep and lambs on feed than any other area. Last year the winter wheat belt of Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas was filled. This winter there are very few and most of them have already been marketed, consequently

Kansas City will need increased supplies from other sections to meet the big demand that centers here.

January receipts were 106,789 compared with 129,479 in 1935 and 158,346 in January, 1934. Kansas, Texas, New Mexico and Colorado contributed most of this year's supply. February receipts from Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas will be smaller than the past month.

C. M. Pipkin.

## Omaha

THE new year ushered in a series of down markets on sheep and lambs that was in contrast to the healthy tone that dominated the trade during the waning days of 1935 and came as a disappointment to feeders who had counted on getting anywhere from 10½ to as high as 12 cents when it came time to ship their finished stock.

Declines were suffered in the face of the second lightest January run at Omaha in 26 years. At about 136,000, sheep and lamb receipts here last month stood some 21,000 heavier than a year ago but less than half as heavy as the January record for this market.

Measured in price per hundred-weight, the month's net loss amount-



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ed to 50@75 cents on lambs and as much as \$1 on ewes. Yearlings paralleled lambs closely, selling around \$1 under lambs of corresponding quality and weight.

In declining, the market followed just the opposite of the trend a year ago and reflected chiefly conditions in the outlet for the dressed product. Apparently the dressed trade was unable to support quotations called for by live lambs above \$10.50 at the river.

The future course of the winter market will depend chiefly upon quotations at which packers are able to move dressed lamb. The wool market has been giving good support to fat lamb prices and there is nothing that would cause concern over the future in that quarter. In fact, some reports of contracts up to 30 cents a pound are already emanating from the range country and pelt credits are showing seasonal mark-ups.

Wool can't be expected to make up for conditions that have governed the dressed market lately—not only in the case of lamb, but all meats. What is needed mostly is greater consumer purchasing power. Even in the face of the estimated shortage in the number of lambs on feed compared to a year ago, the indicated supply should prove ample to take care of demand at the consumer's present ability to pay.

Current quotations, however, are high enough to enable most feeders to pay out on all except some of the lambs that they put in late at relatively high prices. The consensus of opinion now is that the big decline has passed and that prices will hold around a dime a pound or better at the river.

With bulk of the lambs coming to market in killing condition, trade in feeder lambs dropped to the lowest January level in several years. Only 7,500 went out from Omaha last month against 17,200 for the corresponding period a year ago.

The light supply, however, was in keeping with demand. The break in

fat stock, coupled with severe weather and heavy storms during most of the month made for anything but a broad outlet for thin lambs.

Iowa and Nebraska took the entire output of feeders. Buyers paid up to \$10.35 at the high time early in the month but failed to pass \$9.75 later on anything except lambs carrying a fat end. Some of the latter continued to bring up to \$10.00.

A feature of the month's trade was the increase in numbers of ewes. Yearlings weren't so plentiful and the best sold up to \$9.50. With ewes making up something like 10 per cent of the entire arrivals, the market reversed its normal trend at this season. From a top of \$5.50 at the start of January the close saw good handy weights going at \$4.50@4.75.

Kirby Kittoe

## St. Joseph

**R**ECEIPTS for the month were 104,705 compared with 95,896 last month and 66,858 the same month a year ago. All of the feeding districts were represented. The largest number was from Nebraska, which totaled 28,313 head, and Colorado was next with 19,127. Kansas furnished around 17,000, which came mostly from wheat fields and Oklahoma also had a fair showing from wheat fields.

The lamb market during the month was very uneven and closed 75 cents @ \$1 lower. At the month's opening best fed western lambs sold at \$11.10, compared with \$10.25 on the last day, with natives at \$10 against \$10.75 a month ago. Clipped lambs closed about 50 cents lower, with late sales \$9@9.50. Yearlings and aged sheep were plentiful throughout the month and all classes closed lower. Yearlings and twos declined 25@50 cents while old wethers and ewes are 75 cents @ \$1 off. On the close best ewes sold at \$4.60, yearlings \$9.50, two-year-olds \$8.50 and old wethers \$5.75.

H. H. Madden.

## The National Auxiliary

(Continued from page 36)

In a general security program we as club members should not lose sight of that valuable attribute of personal security. We must possess something that will give us a sense of safety and security in the face of calamity. Something which neither depression nor loss of tangible possessions over which we have no control, can take from us. Have we the personal qualities which will give us a feeling of security, that we can face life with energy, strength and possession?

The major elements of individuals in organized groups are faith in our leaders, faith in the economic program set up for our study, faith in the promotion of the educational program given for our study and advancement.

This is the first fundamental. With always a forward look, we come to the second fundamental. For the woman who can keep her eye on the goal, nor be swept aside by tides of criticism or adverse circumstances, the woman "who can walk with kings, nor lose the common touch," who can face disaster with a smile and say with the poet, "I am the master of my soul"—these attributes in club women constitute the surety of a successful organization.

The third fundamental I have listed as ability. Through willingness to serve and search for educational guidance, each individual has a worth and talent which are her own. The expression of that individual worth and that talent has a far greater value than any artificial pose. It has been said, "It is not so much how you start a thing, as how you finish it."

The fourth fundamental is listed as cooperation. Cooperation is a keynote and a watchword to combine the efforts of every individual for the furtherance of the industry through local, state and national auxiliaries. If we will take advantage of the opportunities afforded us we will be able to give to the world the story of wool and the sheep industry which is one of the oldest industries known to man, and today one of the most important of the age in which we are living.

In the United States the wool industry was started in Boston some 292 years ago. Wool manufacturing is still one of New England's great industries. The largest woolen mill in the world is located in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

In the last few years great strides have been made in turning out fine, soft, sheer, lightweight woolens and worsteds, as light as four to six ounces per yard, and suitable for the lightest of evening gowns or for cool tropical worsted suitings. The complete story of wool, if presented by our group or members to the public and through the different business women's clubs, the

Federated Women's Clubs, and other organized groups, will serve as one of our educational features during the coming year.

Success is action, and as we are at the beginning of another year and leaving behind 1935 with its amazing governmental experimenting and developments such as never had been dreamed of, we are, we hope, definitely on the upgrade. It will possibly be a long pull and a hard pull before we can truly say that our plans have met with success. We have made only varying degrees of progress so far, sometimes we have definite backsets in our journey, but we are on our way and with work and determination some day the goal may be reached. A slogan expressed by General Balbo when he visited America is one which we may well think of in connection with our slow progress. It was this: Success is action. Success is a journey not a destination. Action has brought us thus far on our journey but it will take ever greater effort of every club member to complete the upward pull. It may be that other plans of advance will have to be tried before the right one is found, but we all know that we shall not reach our destination for some time and when we have reached what we might suppose to be our destination we will always find that our journey has just begun, but we have laid the stepping stones for the future. That ever ahead for the forward-looking club woman lie even greater achievements and better conditions to be striven for in our industry.

The women's clubs in this state have achieved a great deal of success during the past year and through leadership and cooperation this has been attained.

The woman of today directs the purchases for her family and is a very discriminating buyer. The leaders in our organization knowing this feel that if our product is shown and its merits is demonstrated to the public, a great change will be made in the purchase of woolen made goods and accessories. Through cooperation of merchants in the selling and the housewife in the buying, we can make added strides. Many of the projects and forward movements which deal with the communities as a whole owe their beginning, and to a large extent the successful terminations, to the persistent efforts of the women's organizations throughout the states.

**R**EPORTS of annual meetings held by the auxiliaries in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Utah will appear in the March issue of the National Wool Grower. There was not sufficient space this month to carry them.

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## Around the Range Country

(Continued from page 20)

We are feeding about the same number of sheep this year. Fifteen dollars is the price of baled hay; \$12, loose.

Not many ewe lambs are kept over here, as most of the sheepmen buy yearlings.

We have a government trapper on the job here and coyotes are kept down.

Andy McClain

### Cedar Ville

There is a good supply of snow on the range (February 3), considerably more than at this time last year. All of the stock are on feed this year. For the best quality of alfalfa hay, the price is \$8 a ton in the stack.

The largest part of the flocks are aged ewes and very few ewe lambs have been saved in recent years. I think about the usual number of ewes were bred.

There are a great many more coyotes around here, as private trappers are not doing much because fur prices are so low.

L. E. McCulley

### Willows

We have been having mild weather with rain enough to start feed, but more moisture is needed badly at present (February 4). Conditions generally are not so good as they were a year ago. Feed was later in starting to grow and the growth has been slow, and the lambs are not so good.

About the same number of ewes were bred last fall. Very few ewe lambs were held by growers last year, but more yearlings were purchased than usual. Ages of the bands are better, but there are still a lot of old ewes left, although a good many of them were culled last year and sold for slaughter, more than usual, in fact.

Coyotes are about the same in number except in a few sections where an increase has been noticed. Less work is being done by the Biological Survey trappers.

J. E. McDaniels

### NEVADA

Temperatures were mostly mild or only moderately cold, save for the last few days of January, when it was colder over the northern portion. Precipitation was fairly frequent and moderate to heavy in amounts, especially over the northern and western portion. Conditions were favorable for cattle, which required only moderate feeding; also favorable for sheep on winter ranges. The prospective water supply has been improved.

### Cherry Creek

Weather and feed conditions are very good. We are having rains in the valley and heavy snowstorms in the mountains.

Alfalfa hay is \$10 a ton in the stack and most of the sheep are being fed this winter.

Breeding was done on about the same scale as a year ago, and the ewe lambs were kept in about the same number as in the past two years.

Coyotes are increasing fast. In my opinion a bounty on them would counteract this condition.

Lazdro B. Zubiri

### UTAH

Temperatures were near or somewhat above normal until the last few days, when it turned abnormally cold, especially over the northern portion. It was a stormy month over the northwestern quarter and snow accumulated to considerable depths in these counties. This necessitated increased feeding among domestic animals, but range livestock were not hampered greatly, and they, also, have continued to do fairly well.



### Price

The weather has been good, but there isn't much feed (February 1). Hay is \$10 a ton. About the same number of sheep are being fed as in previous winters.

Our ewe bands are about 60 per cent short in comparison with a year ago, but their average age is about the same.

No bounty is being paid on coyotes, so there are fewer trappers at work and, of course, more coyotes.

Pierre Jeanselme

### COLORADO

Seasonal temperatures were more or less favorable for livestock until the closing day and the first few days of February, when it turned abnormally cold. A few rains and a number of general snows occurred, but as a rule they were insufficient to be of permanent benefit to crops or ranges; hence, more moisture is needed, especially in the east and southeast. Livestock have continued fairly good, with ample forage within reach.

### Palisade

Conditions are generally better than last year at this time (January 28), but only fair at that.

The number of ewes bred to lamb this year is not very different from a year ago and fewer lambs were kept last fall for breeding purposes. The bands in general are younger than four years ago.

The work of trappers has kept coyotes from increasing very much in this section.

B. Gearhart

### Maybell

Weather conditions have been excellent, feed fair (January 29). The situation is better than it was last year, but two years ago we had better feed at this time although the weather was worse.

A smaller number of range sheep are getting feed this year than last. Hay can be had at \$9 to \$10 a ton in the stack.

The average age of the ewes is better than it was three or four years ago, and I believe more ewe lambs were kept last year for stock purposes. About the same number of ewes have been bred to lamb this spring.

L. Elton Gent

### Del Monte

Very few sheep are on the range, although weather and feed conditions are good. As there was a large crop of feed, nearly all of the flocks are on fields or being fed. The prices on hay range from \$5 to \$7 a ton in the stack.

The sheepmen in this county have to depend on the national forest for summer range, and as only so many head are permitted, the flocks are kept about the same size. The lamb crop is ruled by the weather as nearly all flocks are lambing in the open.

Nearly all the old ewes were sold to the government under its drought relief program in 1934. High prices drew most of the ewe lambs to market last fall.

John W. Gerbitz

### NEW MEXICO

Temperatures have persisted below normal, though there were no severely cold spells. Stormy days were few and far between and the storms yielded but little moisture, over the southern portion; but farther north more nearly normal moisture supplies were reported, and snow fell to good depths at the higher elevations. Livestock conditions are satisfactory, except in the southern portion where the ranges have been much too dry.

### Animas

The winter range has good forage at present (January 23), and weather conditions generally are from fair to good.

We have about the usual number of ewes bred to lamb this spring. Sheepmen retained ewe lambs for replacements in about the same number as last year.

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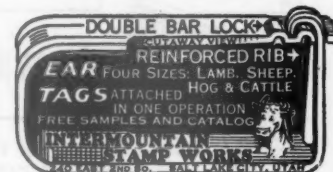
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The low prices of furs haven't offered trappers much inducement to go out after coyotes the last three years and there are more of them, of course.

Offers of 21 cents a pound are being made for the 1936 clip.

There has been no liquidation of sheep outfits around here.

Daisy Lee Adams

## Carlsbad

We have had a good rain and snow the last few days that will do lots of good. In fact, we have had more moisture this year than in the past 15 to 20 years. Baled hay (no hay in stack here) is \$10 to \$12 a ton for good quality, while damaged hay can be had at \$7 a ton.

The ewes are some older than they were a year or so ago, as very few lambs have been held. However, more were kept last fall than in the preceding year.

We had a short lamb, also calf crop, last year and not many lambs are on feed here this year.

Coyotes are more numerous. If we could get the state to pay a bounty on coyotes, bobcats and eagles, there would be lots of people catching them. The men who formerly trapped them are now in town here on relief. There are not enough sheepmen in this part of the country to handle the situation and the cattlemen are not interested. We have a lot of eagles here and they are increasing all the time, the same as coyotes and bobcats. Not many sheep are run on pastures here as we cannot handle the predatory animal and rodent situation.

W. C. Bates

## ARIZONA

Warm weather prevailed, little or no freezing temperatures being reported at the lower elevations. There was no moisture until near the end of the month, when moderate rains fell generally, improving crop and range condition. More rain is needed. Range forage is generally good

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and livestock conditions are generally satisfactory. Sheep shearing has begun.

### WESTERN TEXAS

Nearly seasonal temperatures prevailed save for some cold weather late in January and in right early February. Several rainy days in the panhandle section, mostly early in the month, gave somewhat more than normal moisture, but farther south the country has continued dry, and is still badly in need of rain; in fact all of western Texas would be benefited by more moisture.

### Tulia

Conditions here are better than for the past two or three years for this time.

The ewes are younger in average age than they were four years back and I think a greater number have been bred than last year. More ewe lambs were retained by sheepmen last fall to build up their flocks.

C. L. Gunter

### Hico

January brought colder than normal weather, but the range is up to standard. No hay is raised here, most of the sheepmen using fall grain pastures and grain for feed.

More ewes have been bred and they are generally younger than in previous years.

Government and county trappers have practically eliminated the coyote from this section.

Benn Gleason

### Sonora

Since January 1 we have been across 500 miles of sheep and goat territory, from Rock Springs on the east to El Paso on the west. From 250 to 300 miles of this land is fenced, wolf-proof. We found grass on each side of the highway tall enough to burn (but nobody burning it).

The condition of sheep and goats, cattle, too, was never better. No feeding is being done at all now

(February 1), but some few sheepmen are going to cack their ewes 30 days before lambing, which commences from the 10th to the 20th of March with us in Sutton County. Everyone is expecting from 80 to 90 per cent lamb crops. Some unborn mutton lambs are being contracted at \$4.50 a head.

Three million pounds of wool, mostly 12-months', has been contracted at 30 and 31 cents a pound, delivered anywhere at any time, F. O. B. cars, in the spring. These conditions are making our ranch people feel pretty good.

When in the past two years we did not have as much grass in all south-west Texas as we have now in a half dozen counties, we had our noses to the cottonseed cake stone, working the pedals with hired hands, or knocking sotol.

Our breeding ewes are young, and more ewe lambs than usual were held back last fall for breeding another year.

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ruary and early March. That's 100  
per cent over last spring's prices.

What we need most in the goat  
business is a market for our edible  
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**Del Rio**

Conditions here have been good  
since the first of the year, although  
we have had some cold weather. The  
set-up generally is much better than  
for the past two years in January.  
Not much feeding has had to be  
done so far.

The average age of the ewe flocks  
is better than it was four years ago.  
We kept about the same number of  
ewe lambs last fall as in 1934 for  
use in the breeding bands next year.

The work of trappers keeps the  
coyotes pretty well under control  
here.

Green & Green

**Meeting of Merino  
Association**

THE 30th annual meeting of the  
American and Delaine Merino  
Record Association was held at the  
Southern Hotel, Columbus, Ohio,  
January 15. The report for 1935  
showed an increase in records and  
transfers, and a satisfactory financial  
condition for the Association.

It was voted to retain the same  
fees for another year: lamb records  
25 cents, older sheep 50 cents and  
transfers 25 cents. The annual rec-  
ord volume will be published as  
usual.

The following officers were elect-  
ed for 1936: President, Judge H. W.  
Jewell, Delaware, O.; Vice president,  
W. L. Fisk, Newark, O.; Secretary-  
Treasurer, Gowdy Williamson, Xen-  
ia, O.; Pedigree Committee, Geo. W.  
Deeds, Pataskala, O.; C. H. Bell, Ash-  
ley, O.; J. J. Scheetz, Coshocton, O.;  
Executive Board, J. I. Liles, Col-  
lins, O.; W. L. Fisk, Newark, O.;  
G. J. Hill, Chesterhill, O.; G.  
Krantz, Dover, O.; G. E. Helser,  
Lafayette, O.; A. R. Jewell, Center-  
burg, O.; C. L. Robb, Cadiz, O.

**AMERICAN CORRIEDALE ASS'N.**

The best combination lamb and wool pro-  
ducing breed. Established for 65 years. All  
foundation stock from New Zealand and Aus-  
tralian certified flocks. Registration Fees—50c.

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